

EDMONTON'S 100% INDEPENDENT NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

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# VUEWEEKLY

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[ VUE STAFF / 20 ]

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FILM: DIY GENERATION / 52

MUSIC: ERIC'S TRIP / 63



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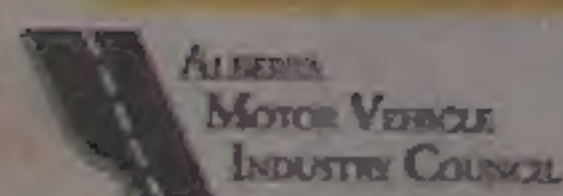
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## ON THE COVER



**BESTEST OF EDMONTON / 20**  
It's time for *Vue*'s sixth annual celebration of the quirky, oddball standouts that make Edmonton the city that it is. We've asked our writers and our readers to tell us what they think the city's heart is really made out of.

## FRONT



**AFTER TAFT / 7**  
"If they got their organization in place—and that's the beginning, really of being politically effective—then anything is possible. And I think that a couple of the MLAs understand this, but several don't—they believe it's just the force of their ideas that can carry them to victory. Well that's nonsense." —Keith Brownsey, professor of political science, on what the Alberta Liberals need to win.

## FILM



**THE DIY GENERATION / 52**  
"With a few exceptions ... the films in this movement are firmly realist in both aesthetic and philosophy, using an offhanded, occasionally voyeuristic style to capture a frequently painfully honest slice of young life in desperate search of some kind of direction." —David Berry, critic, on Metro's mumblecore film fest.

## MUSIC



**ERIC'S TRIP / 63**  
"I think it's safe to say that we're an actual band again. It's not just a reunion, I guess is what I mean. We're having a lot of fun just being, existing and playing together." —Julie Doiron, musician, on getting back together with her old band Eric's Trip.

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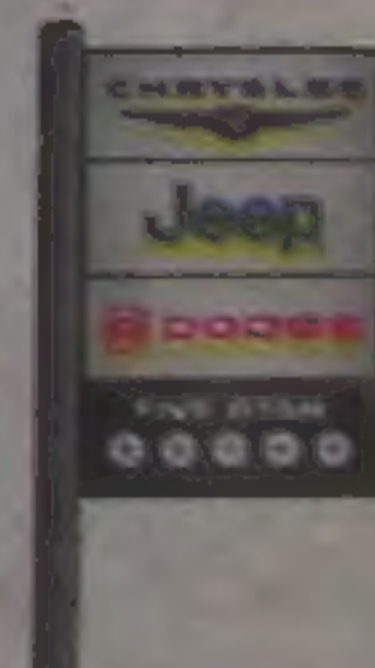
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## Morgentaler deserves honour

SCOTT HARRIS / [scott@vueweekly.com](mailto:scott@vueweekly.com)

There is absolutely no doubt that Dr Henry Morgentaler, a courageous, principled individual who more than anyone else in the country is responsible for Canadian women having the right to access legal abortions, deserves to be named as a Member of the Order of Canada.

Morgentaler was chosen for the nation's highest civilian honour "For his commitment to increased health care options for women, his determined efforts to influence Canadian public policy and his leadership in humanist and civil liberties organizations," according to the Jul 1 announcement.

Morgentaler opened his first abortion clinic in Montréal in 1969, at a time when a woman's right to choose was essentially non-existent, the decision over their bodies left to approval by a three-doctor therapeutic abortion committee in select hospitals. In 1983, police raided Morgentaler's Toronto clinic and he was charged with procuring illegal miscarriages. The case eventually went before the Supreme Court and, on Jan 28, 1988, the high court struck down laws against abortion on the grounds that they violated women's constitutional right to "life, liberty and security of person."

Morgentaler's work in advancing a woman's right to choose was not without personal sacrifice—Morgentaler spent 10 months in jail and was attacked, threatened and vilified by anti-choice activists for years.

Not surprisingly, the announcement has been met with consternation by anti-choice groups, churches and conservative politicians and media who claim the "reprehensible" appointment of Morgentaler "debases" and "besmirches" the Order, ignoring the fact that a significant majority of Canadians support a woman's right to choose and access legal abortions.

Fortunately, the decision has been equally applauded by women's groups, civil liberty groups, pro-choice organizations and activists who have been involved in the long and continuing struggle for women's rights.

While the value and validity of such honourifics is certainly questionable, if we as a country are to have such things to celebrate the contributions of Canadians, it is exactly controversial people like Morgentaler—a man who risked his own life for his ideals and through whose efforts the lives of countless women have been saved—who should be recognized. ▽



Issue No 663 / Jul 3 - Jul 9, 2008 / Available at over 1400 locations

**VUEWEEKLY**

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PRINTING THE EDMONTON SUN  
 DISTRIBUTION Clark Distribution, Barrett DeLaBarré, Alan Ching, Mike Garth, Aaron Getz, Bob Riley, Wally Yanish

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## MAIL LETTERS

### TED KERR: 1, NEW YORK: 0

Ted Kerr writes a vivid, thoughtful account of the Manhattan Film Festival screening of *Sex Positive*, Daryl Wein's new documentary about my role in the invention of safe sex ("Live from New York, it's safe sex!" Jun 12 - Jun 18, 2008). Amazingly, not a single review appeared anywhere in the New York press—gay, straight or alternative—so I'm thrilled that a Canadian reporter found it a worthy topic.

The absence of any coverage of *Sex Positive* in New York may also help explain why, as Kerr noted, the audience was small. But there's another reason that may have eluded Kerr: some in the gay community are deeply uncomfortable with a public figure like me who has refused to be closeted about my past history with sex work, S/M and addiction. I wish it were a "conspiracy" rather than a fact, but there are a few activists who'd rather hide me than accept that my hyper-sexual history actually makes me an effective spokesperson to promote safe sex to those who need it most.

In a city like New York where syphilis and HIV infection rates are rising, worst of all among 13 to 19 year-olds, it's sad that a film that can offer solutions to safe sex gets overlooked because con-

cerns about the gay image supersede the promotion of life-saving information.

As Kerr reported, *Sex Positive* offers a wonderful surprise from what some assume it will be. New York City has lots to offer, but when it comes to what's new in safe sex, Edmonton readers have us beat and Kerr is the man to thank.

RICHARD BERKOWITZ

### THANKS FOR TAKING THE TEMPO

I enjoy all of Erin Mikaluk's columns—but this one ("Passa Tempo proves that size doesn't matter," Jun 12 - Jun 18, 2008) just jumped right out at me! She had me captured from the very start and reading her column had me sitting right there with her at Passa Tempo. The subtle way she shared her personal feelings in being brought back to her childhood added to the experience. I know I definitely want to go visit Passa Tempo—*now*. Thank you Erin for sharing your experience with us and keep up the good work. You're a great writer.

ANNETTE MARTIN

### GOOD REASONS FOR HPV VACCINE

With all due respect, a couple of points made in Connie Howard's recent column ("Benefits of Merck's HPV vaccine don't outweigh the associated risks," Jun 19 - Jun 25, 2008) were not correct.

The author implies that the low risk of potential cervical cancer does not justify the vaccine, however, it also protects against genital warts, decreasing office

visits for diagnosis and treatment and greatly reducing medical expenditures.

"There is nothing to be lost by postponing the shot ..." is also false. Women unexposed to any HPV strain have the best chance of intended protection. The immune response gained from the vaccine is greater in younger patients and the younger the cervix the more vulnerable to HPV, highlighting the benefit for early use of the vaccine.

I'm also concerned when Howard writes, "Young woman who know they will continue to be low-risk candidates [can postpone the shot]." Chastity does not necessarily protect women from HPV. (Three examples: virgin marries a non-virgin and still gets HPV, virgin gets attacked by someone with HPV, spouse cheats and brings home HPV.)

While I also keep a skeptical eye on pharmaceutical companies there are justified reasons to give the vaccine to young girls. This is not a license for promiscuity, but simply, a preventative health measure.

LAURA L JONES, MS  
 PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATOR, NASHVILLE, TN

*Vue Weekly welcomes reader response, whether critical or complimentary. Send your opinion by mail (Vue Weekly, 10303 - 108 Street, Edmonton AB T5J 1L7), by fax (780.426.2889) or by email ([letters@vueweekly.com](mailto:letters@vueweekly.com)). Preference is given to feedback about articles in Vue Weekly. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.*



# As Taft rides off into the sunset, what's next for the Liberals?

SCOTT HARRIS / scott@vancouverweekly.com

In a move that had been widely anticipated ever since the Stelmach Conservatives cruised to an overwhelming 72 seats in the Mar 3 provincial election, Alberta Liberal leader Kevin Taft announced on Jun 26 that he is stepping down as party leader.

"Having held this position for more than four years, and through two general elections, I feel it is time for someone else to bring their energy, skills, and commitment to the job," Taft said in a statement at the Legislature announcing his decision.

"At this point, party renewal is essential for the Alberta Liberals. Leadership is part of that renewal. A new leader would bring a new perspective to the party, new energy and a new style and tone."

Taft, who was first elected as MLA for Edmonton-Riverview in 2001, became party leader in 2004 after Ken Nichol resigned. His successful rookie outing as leader in the 2004 election, where the Taft-led Liberals increased their 2001 seat count of seven to 16, were reversed in March when the Liberals were reduced to nine seats, with just three in Edmonton.

Keith Brownsey, a professor of political science at Mt Royal College, says that despite the election setback, Taft's time at the reins was good for the party.

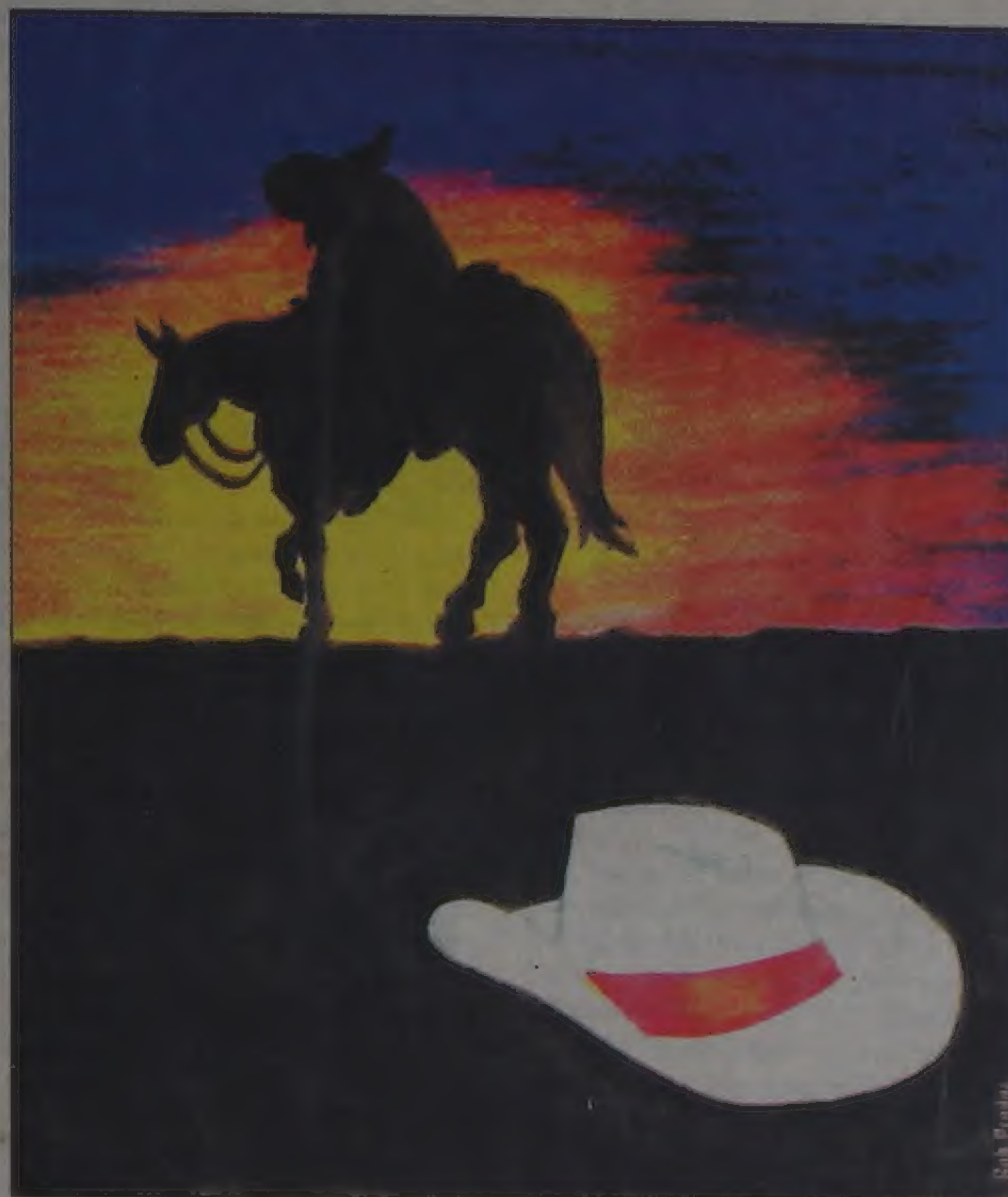
"I think he left it in very much better shape," Brownsey says. "He paid down some of the debt, he ran two elections, he gave Liberals, I think, some hope that they had lost under the direction of Nancy MacBeth and then Ken Nichol."

Peter McCormick, who teaches political science at the University of Lethbridge, agrees that Taft was effective as Liberal leader, but like other opposition leaders in the province, he was unable to translate his efforts—and widespread expectations that 2008 would be a breakthrough year for the Liberals—into success on election day.

"Obviously, up until the Mar 3 election we would have given a different answer. That was when the Liberal party really hit the wall and all the stuff that Taft seemed to have done to re-energize the party and re-focus it and all the rest turned out not to have meant a whole lot in practice," McCormick says.

"It's a frustration of opposition parties in Alberta. We really are a province not like the others, and politically it's people like Kevin Taft who get to feel the full impact of that."

But McCormick cautions that it's dangerous to put all the blame for the



## NEWS PROVINCE

last election on Taft's shoulders.

"We're assuming the Liberal party is Kevin Taft, that they hand the persona over to him and he's responsible for it and at the end when he hands it back we see if it's better or worse," he says.

"I think Taft's problem, the problem of any opposition party in Alberta, is what is the best way to become the next government? And there's two possible answers to that. One answer is you try to look as much like the governing party as possible and say, 'We're enough change to be interesting but not enough change to scare you.' That really is—except for [the United Farmers of Alberta], and, boy, that's going back a long way—that's how it works. I think that half the time that's what Taft was trying to do," he explains. "The other way you beat the government is you come up with a really big issue and you say this government is absolutely wrong, let's punish them. That's a very hard one to pull off [in Alberta]."

Just as important as his time as leader, says Brownsey, is the manner in which Taft is leaving the party.

"I think he did absolutely the right thing by resigning in the way that he did. I don't think he could have done it any better. He didn't decide to hang on for a year, year and a half, as Ralph Klein did. He's gone by the end of January at the latest, if not sooner if the party executive can actually organize a leadership vote."

**WITH TAFT'S DEPARTURE**, the critical question for the Liberals becomes who—if anyone—can step in to reverse the election setback.

Four sitting Liberal MLAs—Laurie Blakeman and Hugh MacDonald from Edmonton, along with David Swann and deputy leader Dave Taylor from Calgary—have already indicated they are considering a run to replace Taft. Calgary's mayor Dave Bronconnier, who many anticipated might take a shot at the leadership, has said he won't enter the contest.

"If I had been coming up with four names, the four people one would hope would put themselves forward for the Liberals, that's pretty close to my set of four," McCormick opines, adding that the upcoming moves by the party executive will send a strong signal about where they think the party needs to go.

"I'm looking at the date they pick for the leadership convention, which will in a way signal whether they want to go from inside the caucus and reward experience or whether they want to look for a saviour coming in from outside. Because if they put it inside the timeframe that Taft has said he's willing to stay on as lame duck leader, which is between now and Jan 1, that will mean they want someone from inside the caucus because nobody else will be able to gear up for it and move quickly enough," he explains.

"If they let it go beyond the date he's indicated he's going to step down as leader no matter what, then they need an interim leader. They could push the date anywhere they wanted into 2009 but I think that would at least open the door to an outside candidate ... [but] I would think they wouldn't do that unless they've been getting some pretty heavy hints that there was somebody about to come through the door they were opening."

While Brownsey isn't surprised by the four MLAs who have indicated interest, he argues that if no other high-profile candidate joins it's really a two-horse race.

"David Swann would be a disaster for the party. He's not much of a politician; he's more an activist than a political leader. Hugh MacDonald likes to ramble; I don't think he would be very good for the party either," he says, bluntly. "I think the two main contenders would be Laurie Blakeman with the Edmonton base on the one hand and Dave Taylor with the new Calgary base on the other."

"But I think Taylor is going to be the better organized and the better financed."

**MUCH OF THE TALK** in the aftermath of the election has focused on what the Liberals need to do to reinvent themselves. Suggestions have included scrapping the party entirely and starting again under a more palatable brand, entering into a merger—which Swann has been publicly musing about—or electoral agreement with the other opposition parties (ideas the NDP shot down overwhelmingly at their recent convention) and undergoing a Tony Blair-esque renewal to create a "New Liberal" party through more effective organization and a re-positioning of the party.

McCormick warns that unless done properly, many of the strategies being discussed are more likely to alienate than attract voters.

"The problem is if you're going to create a new political party, there bet-

ter be a really good reason for it. It's got to be a real new party, not a pretend new party. You've got to find an ideological or issue focus to create the new party and to take the government on. All we were talking about in the aftermath of the election was electoral convenience: what if we could combine these three opposition fragments of votes in a single package and whack the sitting MLA with it. That's not it. That's electoral system talk, that's not really political reorientation talk."

McCormick also says simply renaming the party without more fundamental changes is a non-starter.

"You're saying the Liberal brand is a problem, but let's do it in a way that keeps all the Liberals on side—nudge, nudge, wink, wink. We'll fool a bunch of voters out there who don't like the Liberal brand but will vote for us with a new name. Again, there's so many dangers in that. The biggest danger is that people will see right through it."

Brownsey agrees that superficial changes are risky, and says what the Liberals really need to do is focus on the basics of organizing, something they failed to do in the last election.

"If they got their organization in place—and that's the beginning, really of being politically effective—then anything is possible. And I think that a couple of the MLAs understand this, but several don't—they believe it's just the force of their ideas that can carry them to victory. Well that's nonsense. You need ideas, you need good policies, but by God you also need an organization. ... They could have done real damage to the Conservative government and they just decided not to. They don't know how to organize. I think, as the expression goes, they couldn't organize a two-car funeral," he says.

It's this focus on the basics that Brownsey says Liberal party members should be looking for in the new leader.

"Leadership comes in many forms. You have to have someone who can perform on HDTV but you also need to have a leader who understands organization and the necessity of doing such mundane things as polling, recruiting candidates, setting up constituency organizations. Not only does the leader have to enunciate brilliant ideas and provide what is, I think, erroneously called a vision—it's more like a manifesto or a program—but the leader has to run the campaign, in the sense of hiring good people to do the campaign basics. And I don't think the Liberals have had that for a generation. Not since the days of Lawrence Decore." ▀

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# Transit advocate produces 'shadow report' for council

BRYAN SAUNDERS / bryansaunders@vancouverweekly.com

At a Jul 3 special meeting of the Transportation and Public Works committee, city council will be looking at changing and possibly expanding transit service in Edmonton. The decisions made at the meeting will depend heavily on the results of a report prepared by a city-hired consulting firm. However, the Transit Riders' Union of Edmonton (TRUE) is unhappy with what they say is a profit-centric report prepared by Entra Consultants, and have put together a report of their own, which they will present to council at the meeting. This "shadow report," TRUE says, addresses many important points that the Entra report didn't.

"Unfortunately, the Entra report [looks] at [transit] from a very technical perspective," TRUE spokesman Brian Gould points out. "I mean, they're certainly focused on money. The cost-recovery ratio—how much of the money spent on transit is recovered through fare collection—was definitely a big topic in the report."

He adds that the city-hired consultants didn't do enough consulting with the people who actually take public transit. Gould feels that the opinions and experiences of transit riders should have been given much more importance. To make up for this lack of coverage in the Entra report, TRUE's shadow report has pages upon pages dedicated to what transit riders are saying about transit service in Edmonton.

Despite differences in approach, both reports come to some common conclusions about public transit, such as the need to increase route frequency. But, as Gould points out, even on points of agreement there are some notable differences.

"I think one of the biggest differences is the treatment of 24-hour transit," Gould says. "Ultimately, at the end of the [Entra] report, they put it down as a low priority."

In addition to the adoption of 24-hour transit, Gould says TRUE would also like to see the effectiveness of "meandering routes" addressed.

"We're pushing for—if not a full-scale wiping of the routes off the maps and starting from scratch—at least a critical review of the existing routes. [We want to make] sure that we've created a system that's geared towards growth, and not towards



## NEWS TRANSIT

budget savings, which is what we've been working with for the past years."

**THE CITY** has also increased fares several times over the past few years, with little accompanying increase in service. TRUE takes exception to this in their shadow report, while the official Entra report dismisses the matter entirely, claiming that cost is the issue that matters the least to transit riders, an idea Gould says is simply not the case.

"Just this past year [monthly passes] went from \$59 to \$66.50," Gould points out. "Over the next five years, it's supposed to reach \$89. That kind of irrationalized increase is baffling to transit riders, quite frankly. We would like to either move to tying it to [the consumer price index or the rate of inflation] or just having some kind of well-articulated fare policy."

Ian Young, who is dependent on a walker and public transit since being left disabled following a brain injury, said he couldn't agree more.

"A lot of the cost [of public transit] is being taken out on people with disabilities, many of whom live on AISH," he says.

Young points out that the Disabled Adult Transit Service (DATS) is not practical if someone is unable to drive but wants to be a part of the labour force because booking restrictions on the service make using DATS to get to and from work unfeasible. Furthermore, while bus passes are generally subsidized for

people living on a fixed income, DATS passes are not. The cheaper alternative for Young is to use ETS' regular service, but that also presents problems.

"We don't really have a unified, barrier-free transit system. There are routes where there are absolutely no low-floor buses," Young says. He adds that he's in a state of constant fear while using transit. "I feel vulnerable all the time when I'm waiting for a bus [in the downtown core]. And I have to sit [downtown] for 45 minutes to transfer to another bus. That's not right."

Isabelle Foord, 67, echoes Young's concerns.

"As a low-income senior, I qualify for the low-income senior bus pass, which is a lifesaver for me. But my son is on AISH, and \$66 a month is a hardship for him. If it goes up any higher without any kind of subsidy or relief, I don't know what he's going to do."

Unfortunately, the dilemma faced by those with disabilities and on fixed incomes is largely overlooked in the Entra report, which advocates better cost-recovery at any price. Foord says this is simply unacceptable.

"I don't think transit is ever going to show a profit. It's a public service, it's a necessary service!" Foord exclaims. "They're not asking drivers to subsidize the cost of building bridges and interchanges, so why should transit riders be required to show a profit? There seems to be some very strange priorities [at City Hall]. I think they're giving into the car culture much too easily and much too much." ▼

# Young people fucking (with the tar sands)

SCOTT HARRIS / scott@vancouverweekly.com

A war of words is shaping up south of the border over the future of the Alberta tar sands, adding even more voices to the acrimonious debate already raging in Alberta and across Canada.

The annual meeting of the US Conference of Mayors recently passed a non-binding resolution calling on cities to reject oil derived from the tar sands, prompting the governors of Montana and Idaho to defend oil coming from their northern neighbour. Environmental groups took out full-page ads and wrote letters warning of the environmental impact of the tar sands to the western governors as they met with the western premiers to discuss energy and climate change. Greenpeace has launched a satirical provincial tourism website—[traveling-alberta.com](http://traveling-alberta.com)—encouraging visitors to "experience an Oil Sands vacation in beautiful northern Alberta." Premier Ed Stelmach continues to strike back, calling criticisms of the tar sands "disgusting" and pledging to "get the correct information out there."

But a coalition of Canada's youth environmental groups say that despite all the recent debate about the future of the oil trapped in the sand of northern Alberta, the voices of young people still aren't being heard on the issue. It's a situation that organizers of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition's **National Youth Climate Summit** hope to remedy when they meet in Edmonton Jul 4-6.

"I feel that a lot of times youth aren't given the platform to organize," says Paul Baker, the Edmonton-based organizer of the event. "I think it's important for youth in Canada to really learn about this issue because it's going to affect them more than the older people who have been working on it for a long time. It's really affecting their future ... and I think that's really important for youth."

**BARBARA HAYES**, the 24-year-old director of CYCC, a national organization formed in the fall of 2006 to give youth a way to get actively involved in pushing "for real political and social solutions on climate change," says that while the coalition is active on a range of issues related to climate change, Alberta was the obvious choice when deciding where to hold their inaugural national gathering.

"We think that you can't really talk about climate change without talking about the tar sands and how that fits

NEWS

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in," she explains over the phone from Ottawa. "Even though it's under Alberta's provincial jurisdiction, it affects the rest of us. It affects our international compliance, it affects the way the rest of the industry and the rest of the economy works."

While the global implications of development in the tar sands is drawing international attention and discussion, Hayes argues that young people in Canada have an even greater stake in the outcome of the debate.

"When we talk about the tar sands what we're really talking about is how we want money to be spent, how we want things to be regulated that are going to shape the world we're going to grow up in," she says. "Canada can either put resources into sustainable industries now or we're going to be left behind. And it's youth who will be working in these jobs and will be inheriting this economy, not to mention the affects of climate change."

The first day of the summit, which Baker says already has 150 youth from across Canada registered, will focus on the nuts and bolts of what's happening in the tar sands, before shifting on Saturday to skills training, including techniques of non-violent direct action, media relations and how to develop local campaigns. The final day is dedicated to planning a youth national strategy on the tar sands and climate change.

Hayes says that despite the scale and complexity of the climate change issue, she's excited about the potential of the weekend.

"One of the amazing things CYCC has taught me is the ingenuity of young people and the energy they have. When we first started out we basically didn't have to do any organized recruiting because young people want to be active on climate change," she enthuses. "They know what's coming and they want to get active, so this conference is so exciting, because it's a chance to really capitalize on that energy." ▼

Registration for the summit is still open. For full details visit [ourclimate.ca](http://ourclimate.ca).

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# You're either with us or you're with the Democrats

COMMENT

## DYER STRAIGHT

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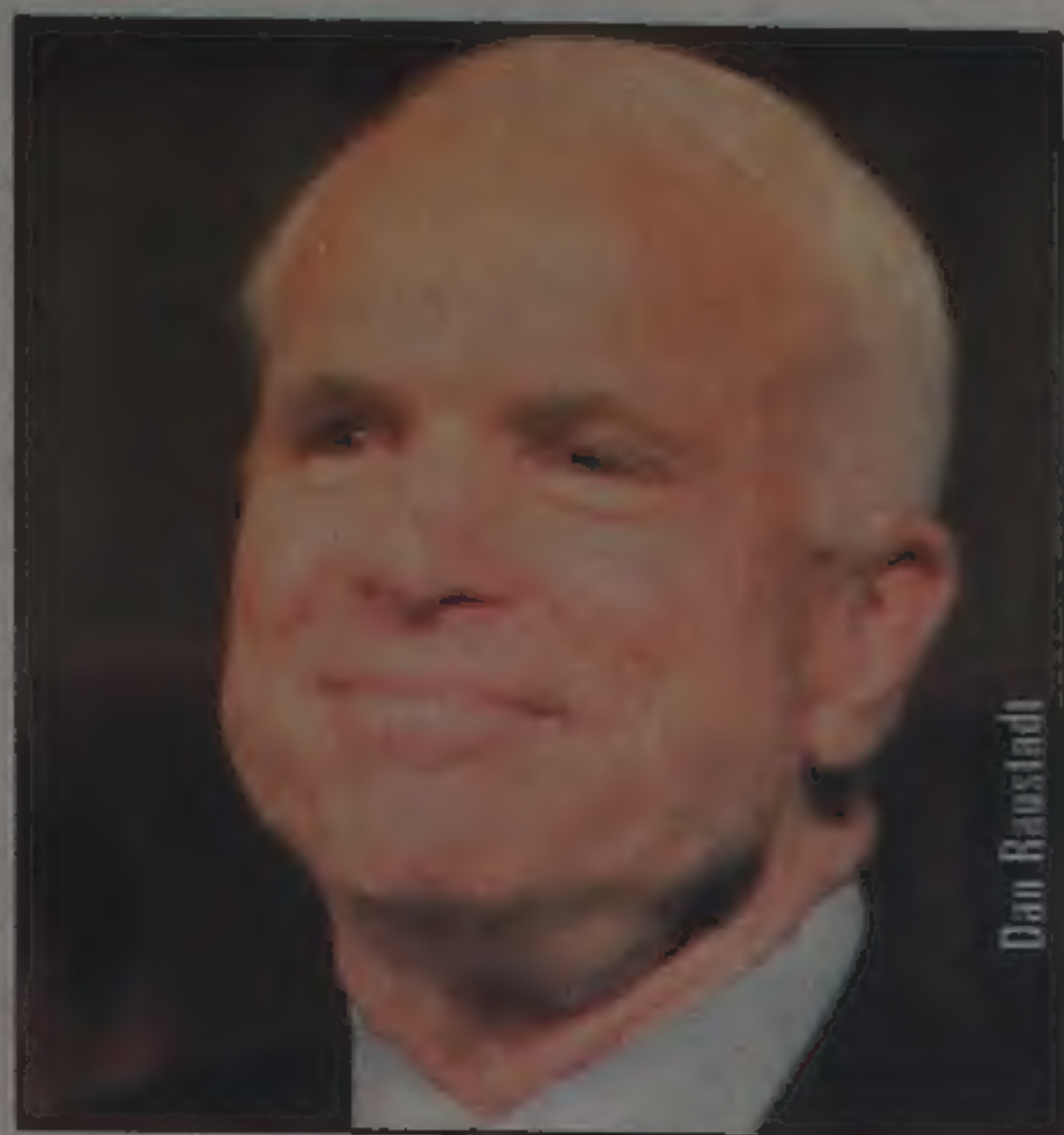
A "faux pas" is not a lie or an error. It is a truthful statement which, for political or social reasons, the speaker should not have made. But since he did make it, let us discuss it.

In an interview published in the July issue of *Fortune* magazine, Charlie Black, chief strategist to John McCain, observed that the Republican presidential candidate would benefit from a surge of support if there were a terrorist attack on the United States before the election. You could hardly make a more obvious statement. Hermits who have lived in caves since the Great Depression know that much about American politics. But you are not supposed to say it out loud.

It's easy to see how Black was led into this faux pas. In the interview, he had mentioned the assassination of Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto last December as an example of an emergency in which McCain's experience would trump Barack Obama's lack of same.

"[McCain's] knowledge and ability to talk about it re-emphasized that this is the guy who's ready to be commander-in-chief," said Black, "and it helped us [in the polls]." So the interviewer asked the obvious next question: would the public also see McCain as the better man to deal with another terrorist attack on the United States?

What was Black supposed to say? "No,



Dan Rausch

I'm sure that Senator Obama would deal with it every bit as well as my candidate?" This was a live interview, and he had inadvertently created an opening for the interviewer to ask the taboo question. So he put his foot in it: "Certainly it would be a big advantage to McCain." Cue fake shock and synthetic horror as everybody on the Democratic side pretends that Black is playing the "politics of fear."

This is "Gotcha" politics of the lowest order. It is why debate on certain key subjects in the United States since 9/11 has been reduced to bland and mindless slogans on both sides of the political divide. Obama cannot say that the "terrorist threat" to the United States has been inflated past bursting point for the past seven years, and that it is high time to shrink it to its real, rather modest dimensions and get on with the country's other long-neglected agendas. He would be crucified by the Republicans as "soft on terrorism," and the US media would

uncritically echo the charge.

Instead, various Obama spokespersons condemned Black's candid remark and, by extension, McCain's tactics. "It is critical that the candidates debate national security ... in an atmosphere free from fear tactics and political bluster," intoned Richard Ben-Veniste, a former member of the bipartisan September 11 commission whom the Obama campaign trotted out for the media. What Black had said involved neither fear tactics nor political bluster, but at this level, hypocrisy rules.

**BLACK HIMSELF**, of course, had to make a grovelling apology, and McCain had to distance himself from Black as far as possible: "I cannot imagine why [Black] would say it. It isn't true. I've worked tirelessly since 9/11 to prevent another attack on the United States." But it is true: a terrorist attack would obviously drive millions of American voters back into the arms of Mr Security, because a great many people assume that ex-fighter pilots are just better than first term senators at dealing with that sort of thing.

Nobody said that John McCain was hoping for a terrorist attack on the United States, but that is the implicit accusation he is denying when he talks about "working tirelessly" to prevent an attack. And that superficial and pathetic exchange of views is probably the closest that the United States is going to come to a genuine debate on security issues during this entire election campaign.

So let us move on to something more interesting. What would "the terrorists" really like to do in the United States

between now and November, assuming that they had the ability to do something? Attack now, or wait until later?

We are not talking about confused juveniles with dreams of 72 virgins here. We are talking about senior leaders who think in strategic terms and plan years ahead. So if they want a McCain presidency, they give him the attack that Charlie Black quite accurately said would boost the Republican vote. If they want an Obama presidency, they do nothing.

I cannot read their minds, but I do know what would swing their decision one way or the other. If they want to collect their winnings now, they will favour an Obama presidency and an early US military withdrawal from the Middle East, after which they could reasonably hope to overthrow one or two regimes in the region and come to power themselves.

If they would rather keep the US mired in the region for longer, inflicting casualties on American troops and building up their own prestige with radical youth in the area, in the expectation of greater political gains later on, then they would back McCain. So they would try to help his election by blowing something up in the United States.

But the bottom line is that they probably lack the ability to blow anything up in the United States, which makes it a rather moot point. ▽

Gwynne Dyer is a London-based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries. His column appears each week in *Vue Weekly*.

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- 2) Dangerous feat. Akon Kardinal Offishall
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- 4) No Air feat. Chris Brown Jordin Sparks
- 5) Viva La Vida Coldplay
- 6) Shake It Metro Station
- 7) Like Me Girlicious
- 8) Forever Chris Brown
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David Dodge, The Pembina Institute

# New ERCB directive on toxic tailings is a huge step in the wrong direction

RICARDO ACUÑA / [alberta.ca/parkland](http://alberta.ca/parkland)

The Alberta Government, along with their friends in the oil industry, have recently embarked on a major campaign to educate Canadians and Americans about the fact that extraction of oil from Northern Alberta's bituminous sands is actually an environmentally friendly and ecologically sound process.

This is no easy task. Especially given that the science, statistics and pictures reflecting what is happening in Northern Alberta tend to speak for themselves. From Syncrude's dead ducks to tailings leaks into the Athabasca River to aerial pictures of the area, the giant tailings lakes attached to these operations have, of late, become one of the most visible manifestations of all that is wrong with bituminous sands projects and a political hot potato for both government and industry in terms of their "education" campaigns.

Last week the Alberta Environmental Resources Conservation Board (ERCB) released a draft of a new directive which is ultimately meant to demonstrate that the government is serious about addressing this most visible of problems. Unfortunately, however, the only thing that the directive—entitled *Tailings Performance Criteria and Requirements for Oil Sands Mining Schemes*—shows is just how negligent the provincial government has been in terms of the environment over the last 40 years.

Tailings are a byproduct of the tar sands extraction process. As the oil is separated from the sand, what is left behind is a mix of sand, water, silt, clay, hydrocarbons and toxic chemicals. Because provincial legislation dictates that tar sands operations cannot discharge any materials into the environment, they must be stored on site. To date, this has meant that they are pumped into big containment sites where the coarser sands settles to the bottom and the fine particles settle into the water. These containment sites are what we have come to know as "tailings ponds." According to a recent report by the Pembina Institute, there are currently about 5.5 billion cubic metres of impounded tailings, with some of the lakes being as big as 13 square kilometres.

To date, the storage and management of tailings has been virtually unregulated and unmonitored by the provincial government. Despite the fact that some 2.0 m<sup>3</sup> to 2.5 m<sup>3</sup> are currently produced per barrel of bitumen, the government has relied entirely on the voluntary good will of industry in terms of what they do with that byproduct.

Every tar sands outfit in operation has been required to submit plans for reclamation of their operations site. Within those reclamation plans are plans for dealing with and handling tailings over the long term. For the most part these plans rely on two technologies: the creation of end pit lakes (which essentially means covering them up with a "reclaimed lake"), and turning them into consolidated tailings (tailings thickened by some agent which would make them transportable so they can be "integrated" into the landscape).

The problem with these proposed technologies is that after 40 years they still exist exclusively in the realm of the theoretical, and have not been proven anywhere to be viable or safe. In other words, there is no evidence anywhere that industry's "plans" for tailings reclamation will actually work.

So now, after 500 dead ducks, after public outcry from around North America, after reports that tailings have been leaking into the Athabasca River all along and after getting their knuckles rapped by a joint federal-provincial review panel, the provincial government has decided that maybe relying entirely on industry to manage tailings on a voluntary basis may not be a good idea.

What last week's ERCB draft directive does is set enforceable guidelines and performance measurements by which government can ensure that industry is actually making progress on their long-term tailings management plans. In other words, after 40 years the government has decided it has some responsibility for ensuring that industry does what it said it would do.

**WHAT THE ERCB** directive does not deal with, however, is the real problem with tailings in the tar sands. Whether they

are being stored in tailings lakes, buried in end pit lakes or thickened and spread over the landscape, the real issue with tailings is that they are incredibly toxic and pose a significant threat to human life and the ecosystem in general.

The problem is not what form the tailings are in, but the fact that there are tailings at all. The ERCB directive forces industry to start working toward development and implementation of technology that is not proven. In the meantime, the industry continues to produce these toxic tailings at an alarming rate, with no guarantee that the human and environmental risk from these tailings will ever be eliminated.

Imagine if someone discovered that there were high levels of poison in the water coming out of our taps. Would you be okay with the government simply setting guidelines and timelines for the development of technology which may or may not eventually remove the poison from our drinking water with the poisonous water continuing to flow in the interim?

Some analysts have referred to the ERCB's move as a baby step in the right direction, but it is not. It is, actually a huge step in the wrong direction. Until industry can show scientifically—and beyond a shadow of a doubt—that they have technology in place which will make tailings safe over the long term, no new tailings should be allowed. If that means shutting production entirely, then so be it. There can be no greater motivator for industry to innovate and change their practices than the risk of permanently losing the golden goose.

Tailings are toxic and dangerous, and there's currently no technology which can change that—why is government looking the other way while their production continues to increase? It's time this government stopped making it so easy for industry to poison Albertans and destroy our landscape. It's time they remembered their primary responsibility and started governing in the interest of Albertans, not Syncrude and Suncor. ▼

*Ricardo Acuña is executive director of the Parkland Institute, a non-partisan public policy research institute housed at the University of Alberta.*

# Spain breaks the curse to cap memorable Euro 2008

FUTBOL

GOOOOOOOOAL!

BRIAN GIBSON  
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*I went to a sleek Italian ristorante on the Southside to watch the Azzuri get dismantled, saw the second floor of an old-style pub on Whyte rock as Turkey capped the comeback of all comebacks, and sat in the growing silence of defeat at a Portuguese grocery's backroom café. And then, after 19 matchdays, 23 normal days, 31 games, and around 48 total hours of European soccer—UK team-free but with the two semi-European teams, Turkey and Russia, making it to the semi-finals—it all came to an end. Perennial under-achievers Spain (last major title? Euro '64) played perennial champions or near-champions Germany (three Euros, three World Cups) for the Euro 2008 crown.*

**THE FINAL** The suspense rested almost entirely with Spain on Sunday. Would they finally win another major tournament? Would they cap off their first-class play all tournament with one last win? As the game went on, Spain pushing forward but resting most of their hopes on sole striker Torres, would Germany somehow find a way back through just one half-chance? After Torres soared to meet Ramos' cross at 20', clanking the header right back out off the bar, Spain's also-ran record started to seem a bit like a noose, tightening around their necks. But then, at 33', Torres nipped at Lahm's heels, snuck inside on his right, tapped the ball over a late-sprawling Lehmann, and the ball spun for goal. 1-0 and the red-and-yellow were ecstatic.

Spain continued to press, finding lanes and openings, parting the German defence with through balls and quick touches. The suspense only lasted because the matadors couldn't stab home the fatal thrust. At 67', Lehmann made a nice save off Ramos' crashing header, then Iniesta got the short pass from the corner and hammered it off the defender guarding the near post. A minute later, Iniesta was in the box again, jabbing the ball hard off Lehmann's shoulder. Late in the match, balls flashed just beyond the toes of Torres, then Senna.

So when the whistle went and, not long after, goalie Casillas raised the trophy over his head, the team that had charged forward, playing quick, slashing, attacking soccer and looking to create, to score, to win, was the well-deserving champion.

**SEX, TIES AND VIDEOTAPE** For the sake of privacy in these parts, I won't name the hapless players involved, but Euro 2008 had its share of cups getting kicked for the world to see. Two different Swedes got cleated in the nuts and the ass, respectively and disrespectfully, by Greek players who at least left some sort of mark before heading home without a win. Turkish players seemed pretty frisky after their incredible quarter-final victory over Croatia, even getting down to some playful wrestling. And in Germany's semi against Turkey, after sliding out of bounds, Schweinsteiger gave himself a near-wedgie and rode his shorts up to a

half-underwear, half-1980s-shorts look. And in the final, Germany's Klose got nailed right between his goalposts by Spain's Marchena on a follow-through.

There were few ties, thankfully, with teams' offence almost always rewarded. Greece, Sweden, the Czech Republic and Italy went home after playing too defensively, especially in their final games. Austria and Switzerland had to say "aufedersein" pretty quickly after lacking that lethal finishing touch. Ibrahimovic, Podolski, Villa, Nehat, Sneijder and Robben netted some stunning strikes.

There weren't too many controversial calls, either. The apparent offside in the Italy-Netherlands game was explained by a player out of the frame and the field who'd put van Nistelrooy onside, though a German goal against Poland was offside and a number of balls that should have been corner kicks were instead called goalkicks. All in all, though, a well-officiated tournament where the referees and their assistants were rarely made to look foolish by video replays.

**LOST IN TRANSLATION?** After Les Bleus went out—and dismally, too, scoring only once and allowing six against, their defence more aged and stinky than blue cheese—what was coach Raymond Domenech's reaction? He proposed to his long-time girlfriend. "I have only one project: to marry Estelle, which is what I'm asking her today," he said. Okay, so you're moving on, trying to ease professional hurt with personal happiness (from obsessions with 4-4-2 or 4-3-3 to some 1-on-1 time). But should you really be calling your love-life your "project?" Maybe it was just too hard, after seeing his team score so few of them, to say "goal."

**HIGH-PITCHED** There's been talk of this tournament as the greatest in soccer history, or at least recent soccer memory. It certainly had the greatest plucky underdog, miraculous comeback team in soccer, hell, sports history—Turkey's wins here were astonishing. With a short bench and some of their best players out, they still charged out in their semi and it was cruelly ironic that they had the carpet whipped out from under them at the last minute by Germany.

There were some incredible games: early triumphs by Portugal and Germany, Croatia's all-out, 90-minute effort against the Germans, the Netherlands' breathtakingly playful football against Italy and then France, then Russia's running, gunning quartering of the Dutch, Spain's ruthless breakouts and scintillating goals in both their wins over Russia, and, after their opening loss, the astonishing endings of every game Turkey played. But it's the final game that people always remember, and Euro 2008 went out on a high—Spain, without a major tournament win since the Olympics in 1992 and Euro in 1964, was the strongest, steadiest team here. And though they should've scored more against an unimaginative German side, they deserved, far and away, to win the title game and the tournament, a tournament so good that it can be remembered for more than just a 1-0 final and a long-awaited breakthrough by Spain. ▼



# A sun-inspired move from Hill to Town

GAMES

## INFINITE LIVES

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Where do the impulses powering impulse purchases come from? Is there a kind of ancient-altar hoodoo invested in point-of-sale displays ... or maybe a weird species of elf, adapted to a mall environment after its original pastoral habitat was subdivided and paved, using magicks that once drew the unwary eye to poisonous mushrooms to hypnotize shoppers into picking up unnecessary or inappropriate items? How else to explain the fact I now own a copy of *Silent Hill Origins*?

In the dim of autumn, on a Halloween spook trip, sure; in winter's cold nights under a double-layer of afghans (a single afghan never does it; all those holes!), fine. But grim survival-horror in high summer just doesn't make any sense, especially considering I haven't really been into the series since *Silent Hill 2* goosebumped me into nightmares. I just saw it there, previously played and marked right down, and something (altar mojo and/or mall faeries) made me think, "Hey, yeah a freaked-out trucker going toe-to-toe with the magically externalized demons of his abusive past? That's good patio gamin', there!"

You know, I tried. I gave it a go. I felt I had to justify the 30-odd summertime dollars invested, dollars better spent on yard improvement, mojito fixins and precious gasoline ... but, damn, that shit's going to have to gather dust 'til after Labour Day. I just couldn't get into it with the sun shining, and it didn't help that the game's visuals are so crazy dark. The PSP's screen is a brilliant, crystalline marvel, sure, but when you're playing outdoors—even in the green-dappled shade of a Manitoba maple—you need something with a lot more contrast than you get from the foggy streets and hellbound hallways of *Silent Hill*.

That's where the *Daymare Town* (daymaretown.com) series comes in. *Silent Hill Origins* had whet my appetite, if not for full-on horror then at least for a gentle creepiness, and Mateusz Skutnik's pair of eerie point-and-click graphic adventures were just what I needed: an engrossing but not preoccupying journey through an unsettling but not horrific world of weirdness but not monstrosity, presented in black-on-white line art that shows up just fine on a daylight LCD. I'd played the first installment of *Daymare Town* ages ago, and only just now noticed that Skutnik dropped part two at the end of May; my excitement was enhanced by the fact I'd finally be playing with a mouse.

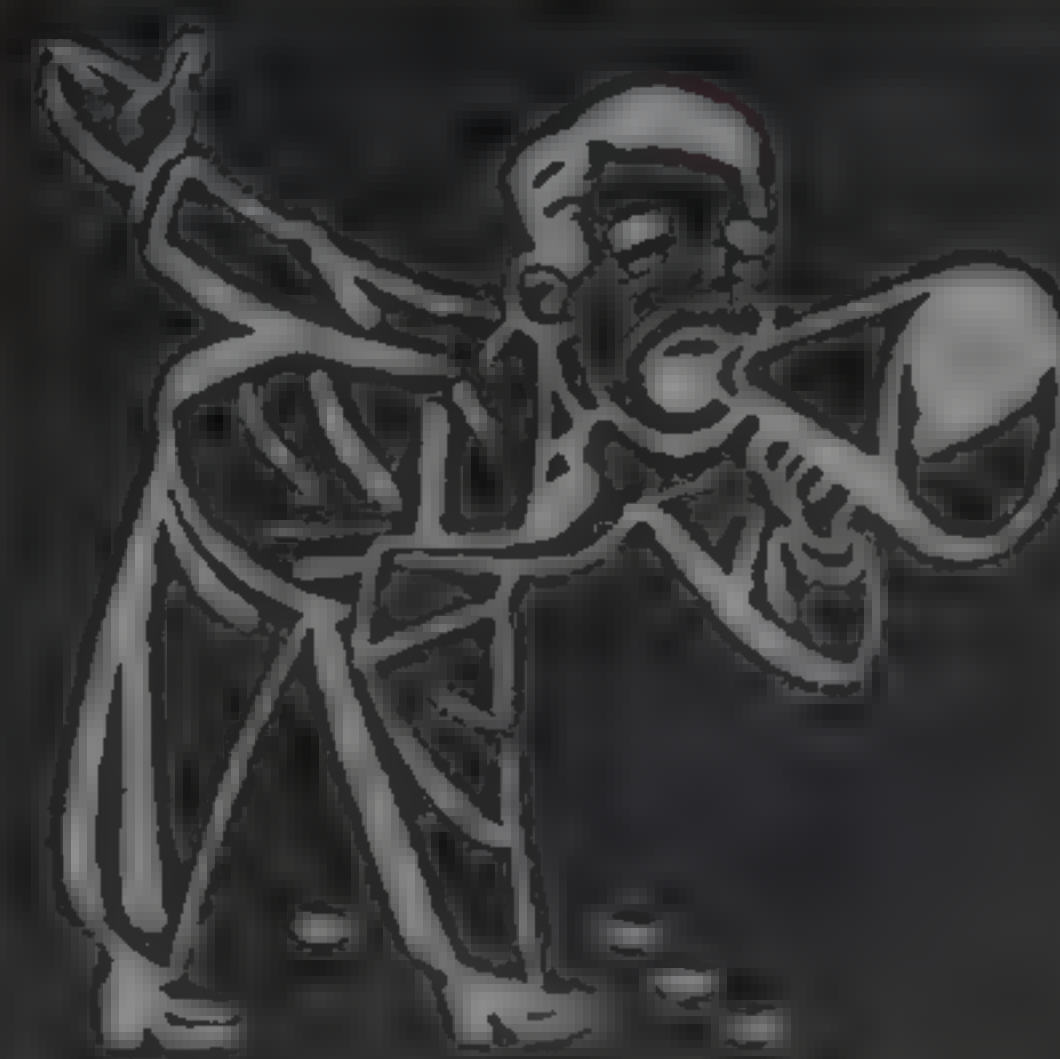
**WHAT'S THAT?** Oh, yeah; I haven't had a mouse for years. I've been a touchpadder since I got my iBook at the beginning of '06, and an old-school ThinkPad nubbin-jockey for the few years before that. It's kind of my secret shame; for the better part of a decade, I've been running through the cycle of a) getting pissed off and saying "Fuck! I need to get a mouse!" and b) totally forgetting to buy one at every opportunity. It doesn't make any sense, so I'm just going to go ahead and blame the Mall Faeries I just invented; something about seeing me get all

cramped and carpal-tunneled, my right index finger calcifying permanently into a hooked claw, must have really tickled their otherworldly funny-bones. Only this week did I manage to shake their spell, cleverly playing their own power of impulse buying—combined with the dirt-cheap manufacturing might of China—against them: there on the dollar-store racks, a USB optical mouse for four freakin' dollars, a price so insane it broke the enchantment.

Moving from the postage-stamp touchpad of my EeePC to the flimsy plastic freedom of a disposable mouse feels like waking from a dream; is it too ironic that the first thing I did with that freedom was dive into another dream? Mechanically, *Daymare Town's* a straightforward graphic adventure—mouse over and click around, figuring out how things interact with other things until you hit the (a) solution state—but aesthetically ... it's where the drawings

from *Where the Sidewalk Ends* (and other retro graphic styles my memory can't place its fingers on) meet a surreal, sunlit Old World; a semi-deserted place where formerly functional (even if their former function of obscure) spaces have become puzzles to solve, haunted by skittering spectres and monomaniacal weirdoes who didn't get (or ignored, or ate) the evacuation notice.

Strange vibe, playing a game like this out on the patio—breathing ambience of the town mingling with the breezy sighs of real-world tree leaves, the brow-furrowing frustration native to the graphic-adventure genre (google a walkthrough, impatient ones) contrasting with the natural relaxational powers of a sunny day in a deckchair. Follow the clues, absorb vitamin D ... keep your body in the sunshine and your mind in Skutnik's stark, bright-dark wonderland ... plenty of time for *Silent Hill* and its myriad spooky concerns when the leaves start to turn ... v



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# Dance your cares away

HEALTH

WELL, WELL, WELL

CLIFF HARRIS  
Illustration: Cliff Harris

Looking to shed a freshly troubled sorrow of mine, wanting to generate some optimism, I arm myself with a couple of the most effective tools available to me in the moment—my notebook and pen and a new writing project on my mind (it's 8:00 am on a Tuesday morning). I get in my car and head away from the isolation of my office and toward the pseudo-non-isolation-comfort of Starbucks.

But my car is waiting to submerge me some intense and memory-laden acoustic guitar sounds, which under the circumstances knock me over with the force of Hawaiian North Shore surf—an unexpected and inconvenient trigger that is actually a gift in disguise. A gift, because unprocessed and internalized stress have the ability to mess very quickly with our health, and mine had, in one short week, already done its damage—my neck, I realize, is much worse than I'd thought when I first got up, completely unable to perform a task as basic as a shoulder check.

We've actually long known that the health of our minds and bodies are connected—that sudden bad news for example can even be fatal—but science has now confirmed that much more than our hearts feel the effects of emotional trauma or chronic stresses like fear, anxiety, hostility and depression. Recent research has shown increased asthma risks in children whose mothers experience high levels of pregnancy stress, and other research has linked stress to obesity, autoimmune disease, arthritis, diabetes, even cancer.

Which is why the pursuit of happiness—whatever the difficult circumstances thrown our way—and trying to steer clear of unreasonably stressful and negative personal or work environments, is simply the responsible thing to do.

But women, according to new Canadian stats, are still less happy than men, particularly those of us between 30 and 50. Surely not because our pursuit of gender

equality has hit a roadblock? Or because we've been groomed—along with millions of women around the world and throughout most of time—to help, to take a back seat to others, to pick up the slack for those we love, to avoid saying no, to be nice, and pretty and make the lives of others easier with little regard for our own?

The truth is that we still spend more time on child care, domestics, and helping aging parents than men do; we make 70.5 cents on a man's dollar (down from a decade ago); we account for two-thirds of those on minimum wage. We are in fact still working more and valued less.

But how do psychological stresses translate into the same very real health risks that the well-known ones of obesity, smoking, inactivity or inadequate nutrition bring? The answer is of course inflammation, inflammation that can become chronic and do far more damage than seize up a neck now and then.

How it works is in a loop. Stress yields stress hormones, which yield inflammatory chemicals, to which the brain responds to by calling for more stress hormones. Life's punches left unchecked can quite literally make us sour—the stressed and depressed show higher levels of inflammatory chemicals in their blood.

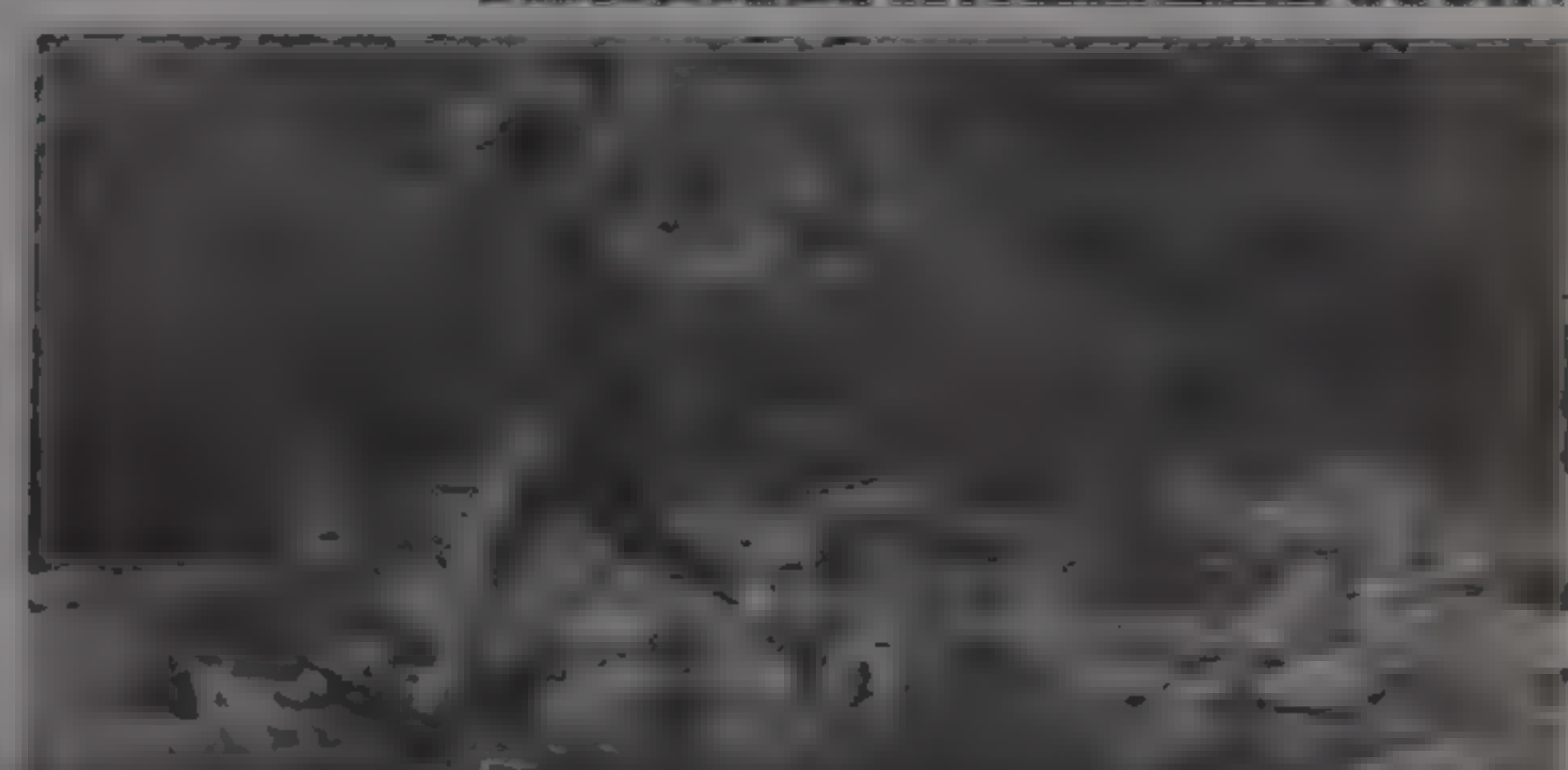
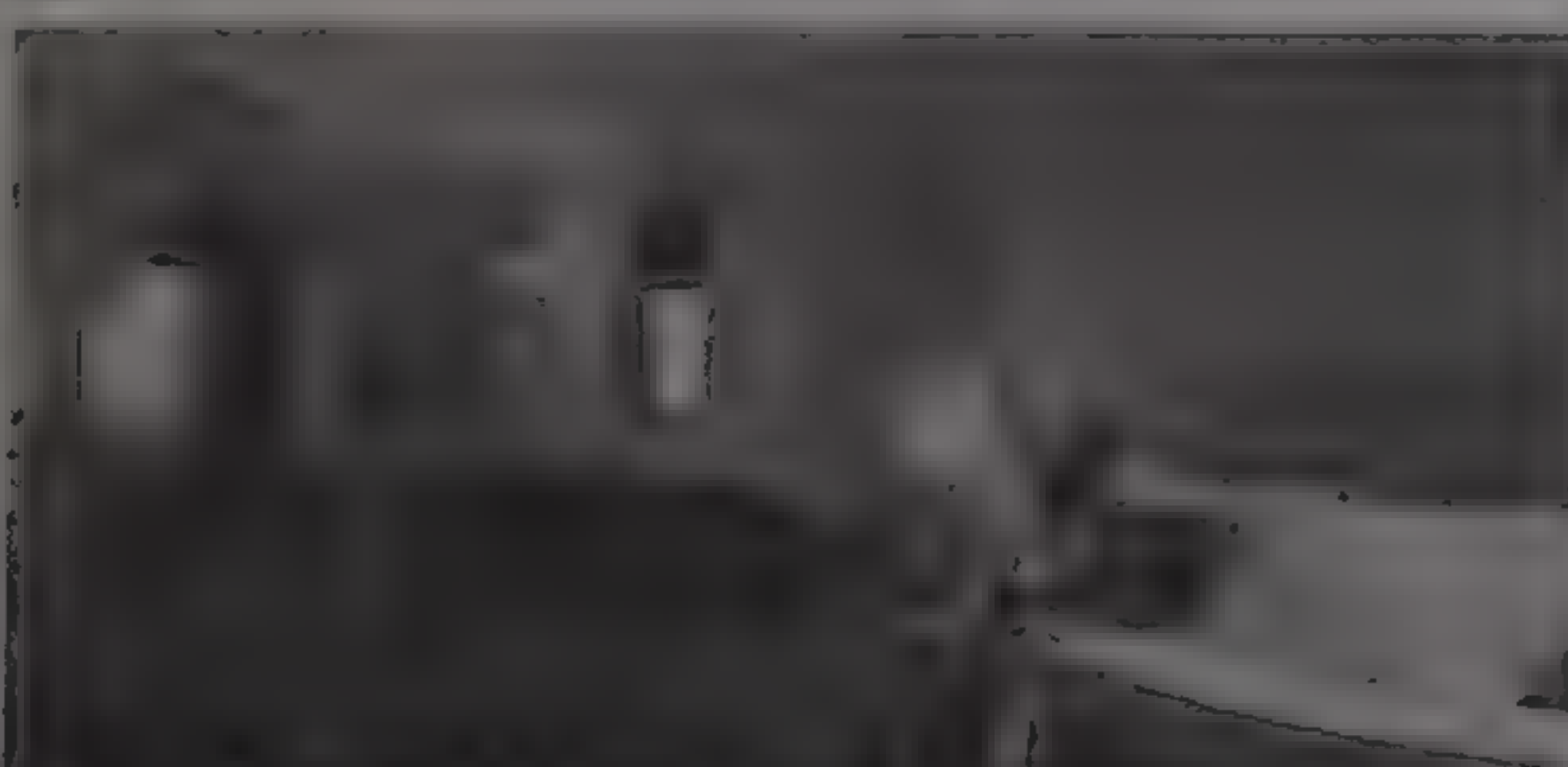
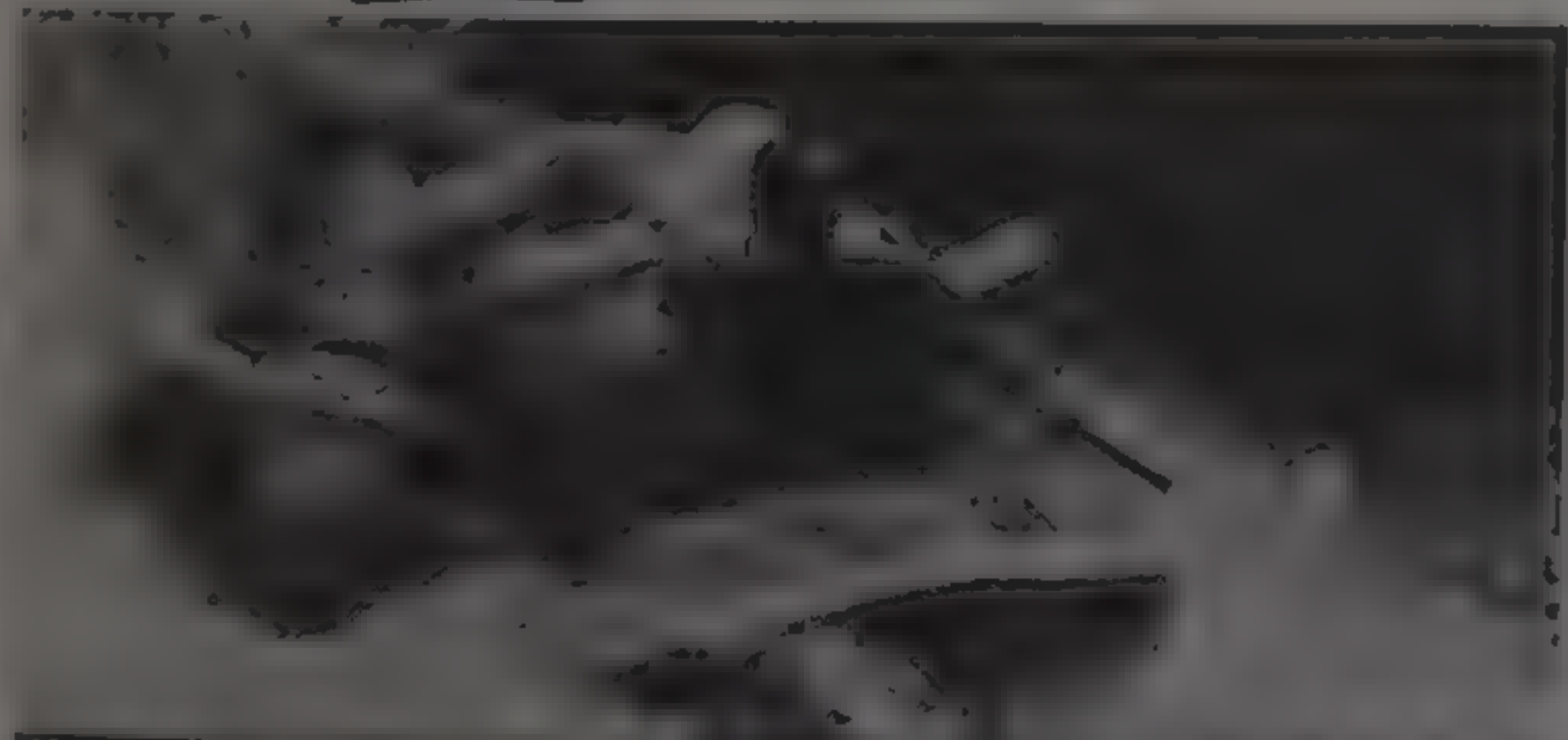
While we sometimes have little control over curveballs coming our way, finding ways to counter them is vital. Exercise helps, if it's enjoyable, especially if it's as enjoyable as, say, dancing up a storm out on the lawn under a mid-night sun in June. Any kind of fun helps, and so does talking, and so do fish oils and other supplements that increase serotonin and decrease inflammation, and so do massage and acupuncture. (These last two heal in a number of ways, one of which is by increasing endorphins.)

And to those inclined to dismiss these as flakey unscientific ways to chase disease, I'll just throw out the reminder that science isn't limited to randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies. The fields of astronomy, botany and zoology rely heavily on observation, and healing remains—so obviously, to anyone with any intellectual honesty and willing to look at the state of our pharmaceutical-based health—both a science and an art. ▼



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# This bisque kills fascists: meet a kinder soup chef

JAN HOSTYN / jan@vuwweekly.com

When I hear the words "soup kitchen," I immediately think of *Seinfeld's* Soup Nazi.

Bossy, intimidating, fear-provoking, and just plain nasty would be some of the kinder, gentler, descriptions that come to mind. But that particular tyrant made such amazing, awe-inspiring and addictive soups that people were willing to put up with almost anything just for the honour of filling their tummies from his canteens.

Edmonton has its very own little "soup kitchen," a modest yet funky and nostalgic spot called Soul Soup. And if you venture inside, you will find **Carla Alexander**, one of the owners and the person responsible for creating all the incredible and innovative soups that bubble away delightfully throughout the day. She does have one of the Soup Nazi's qualities—they both make amazing soup—but other than that, the similarities are few and far between.

When you wander into Soul Soup, chances are you'll be greeted by Carla. It's just a small operation so it's up to her and Amber, Carla's one and only employee, to chop all the veggies (150 pounds a week), simmer all the stocks, whip up all the combread and do all the other million and one things that need to be done on a daily basis. But her huge smile, vibrant personality, friendly demeanour and casual, laid-back attitude are a world away from the Soup Nazi's rigid, menacing persona.

Carla says she "always" enjoyed cooking. At four, she was making "mud pies" in the backyard, and by the time

**PROFILE** **CARLA ALEXANDER**  
OWNER/CHEF OF SOUL SOUP

she had reached the ripe old age of 11 she had moved inside and was whipping up a mean lasagna. Dirt was no longer her prized ingredient of choice. Watching her parents cook on a daily basis had taught her a thing or two.

She thought it just seemed natural to somehow involve food in a career path so she entered the commercial cooking program at NAIT—she calls it "one of the finest." She graduated, worked at a few restaurants around town, and learned from some "pretty amazing people." Carla ended up working at Culina, where part of her creative energy was unleashed on the soup of the day.

**THAT SOUP OF THE DAY** is what ultimately inspired Soul Soup. Soup-crazy customers began asking if they could get some of the soup "to go," to help them make it through crazy soccer/hockey/gymnastics or just "I've simply run out of time" nights. That demand eventually grew into Soul Soup, a business venture Carla started with Brad Lazarenko from Culina and Sal Di Maio, owner of Halo/Red Star. The idea was to take the soup concept, specialize in it, and do it really, really well.

Carla is the "hands-on" partner, the wiz behind creating and concocting the soups on a day-to-day basis, but Sal pitches in when it comes to doing errands and grocery runs. She gives



both Sal and Brad credit for being her mentors, for inspiring and motivating her, and is quick to point out that there would be no Soul Soup without them.

A lot of Soul Soup's recipes come from six of Carla's favourite cookbooks. She's too much of an artist to use the exact recipes, though. She tweaks and modifies, adding a bit of this and a bit of that. She makes them bolder, more exotic and "more worldly," she explains.

What happens to go into the pot on any given day also depends on what she's craving at the moment. Her "crazy love of carbohydrates" inspired a perogy soup. If it's a hit with the customers (and yes, the perogy soup was), it becomes part of the regular soup rotation, just like other customer favourites such as Polish Dill Pickle,

Moroccan Lamb Tagine and South Bacon-Chicken Gumbo.

She tries to do a three-week rotation of the soups, but it also depends on the availability on the ingredients, so it can get a bit tricky. But they do have a soup "hotline"—you can just phone to see what is bubbling away in the big pots that day.

Carla wants to keep things fresh and healthy. That means using locally grown ingredients, ones that are free of pesticides and growth hormones, and trying to get the freshest and best of everything. She's also on a bit of a mission to make us all a little healthier, so she starts out every pot of soup with nine pounds of veggies, something she thinks we don't eat enough of.

She says she is "high-energy," and I'd have to agree. You'd have to be to

do what she does on a daily basis. On good days, once the lunch rush is done, she'll perch on the big freezer in the back and indulge in a bowl of soup with Amber. But usually she doesn't slow down long enough to sit and eat—she says there just isn't time. All the tasting and sampling she does throughout the day gets her through.

**AFTER ALL THIS TIME** and so much soup, I was wondering if she ever got tired of eating it, but she insists she still loves it. "What's not to like? It's simple, comforting, delicious and blankets your insides," she says. She figures she eats at least 16 ounces a day and describes herself as "a lifer."

I found it interesting that, even with her chaotic schedule, she still manages to find time to host field trips for some of Edmonton's pint-sized future soup lovers. Small groups of kids come in, ask some questions and stay for a healthy, soupy, lunch. The first group of kids almost threw a wrench in the "let's eat lunch" plan—they wouldn't eat soup that had so many veggies in it—but a quick whirl in the blender solved that. The dreaded veggies magically disappeared and the kids were asking for seconds.

So if you miss *Seinfeld*, pop in to Soul Soup and see our very own version of the "Soup Nazi," only new and improved. And if that doesn't get you down there, they are adding homemade ice cream sandwiches, made with bourbon vanilla ice cream and rum-soaked chocolate cake, to the menu this summer. Soup and ice cream—what more could you want? ▼

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## There's more to Canada than beer

ERIN MIKALUK / erin@vancouverweekly.com

It was the scorching hot day before the July long (well, kinda) weekend and I was in the mood to sit back, relax and indulge in some wine. Leaving work on Friday, I would have paid a lot of money to taste the sweet nectar of a fine Riesling or Pinot Gris flow across and cool my tongue. Luckily, I didn't have to pay a dime—I got a taste of both wines, and much more, for free.

DeVine is a modern storefront, reclaimed from the classic Birks building on 104 St. Designed with dark woods and an open floor plan, the space strikes an inviting balance between casual and elegant. They offer monthly wine and beer tastings, some free, some with a minimal charge, but each with a different theme. Today's event was a celebration of Canadian wines, appropriately titled the **Canadian Wine Festival**.

I stepped through the door and knew I was in for a treat. Close to 10 wine stations were set up around the room, each displaying three or four of their best bottles—and so far, having arrived right at the beginning of the tasting time, I was the only one there. Since I was driving, I knew I needed a plan of action. I decided to try one or two wines from each table and thought I'd start with the smiling guy in the middle.

The smiling guy turned out to be the rather knowledgeable representative for Mt Boucherie, a family-owned winery located in the heart of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. Under his recommendation, I started off my tasting tour with their Gewurztraminer (aka Gewurtz)—an off-dry white,

### WINE | DEVINE'S CANADIAN WINE FESTIVAL

with a full and powerful bouquet of fruit. It is also one of the most popular Canadian wines right now, along with the Pinot Gris.

I could taste the natural sugars of the Gewurtz as I swished the wine in my mouth and noticed hints of citrus, oak and almonds. "It's PPW," the representative said proudly, "Patio Poundable Wine." I also learned that to better cool your white wine if it's been sitting in an ice bucket, you should turn it on its head. "It gets the right drinking temperature throughout the bottle," he shared.

**NEXT UP WAS** Angel's Gate, a Niagara winery that was built on the site of an abandoned milk farm. I decided to give their Riesling a try and see how it compared to some of my favourite Riesling's from Germany. I was surprised to find that it held up quite well, with a light, crisp flavour that did not overpower my senses. Flavours of pear and apple gave it the perfect kick it needed to be added to my list of lazy summer wines. As one of the only Niagara wineries present, Angel's Gate did well in representing Canada's east.

A number of other wines followed. I tried a medium-bodied Merlot from Tinhorn Creek, a light Viognier Rousanne with mineral overtones from Twisted Tree and a Pinot Noir from Averill Creek. Each was from British Columbia and each had a distinct flavour that demonstrated Canadian wines are nothing to laugh at in

today's wine industry. But, my absolute favourite wine station was my last one, the one that hosted Red Rooster Winery and Calona Vineyards.

Both located in the Okanagan, Red Rooster and Calona delivered the perfect finish to my deVine tasting experience. The Merlot from Red Rooster was not at all your typical Merlot. One swirl of the wine produced the incredible scent of plum and ripe berry fruit, and the flavour followed suit with the added hint of chocolate. The wine offered the right balance of tannins and flavour, and coated my tongue in a sassy sweetness.

Sovereign Opal from Calona is not only the silver medal winner of the 2007 Tasters Guild International Wine Competition, it is also the only wine hybrid of its kind in the world. And, even better, it costs only \$15, well within the reach of any wine lover. The scent of flowers and bright, ripe fruits rose from my glass to my nose as I breathed in the wine. My first sip tasted of grapefruit and juicy island fruit. The lingering finish of the medium-bodied white left me wanting more and I decided for \$15, I had no choice but to pick up a bottle.

I left deVine feeling quite elated. Yes, it may have had something to do with the wine or free tasting, but I'd like to think my elation went deeper. As a wine geek, I'm thrilled to see Canadian wines being profiled and learned about. Wines may come from all over the world, but as we celebrate Canada Day this week I'd like to raise a glass to the winemakers of Canada. Canadian wines are certainly something to celebrate! ▽

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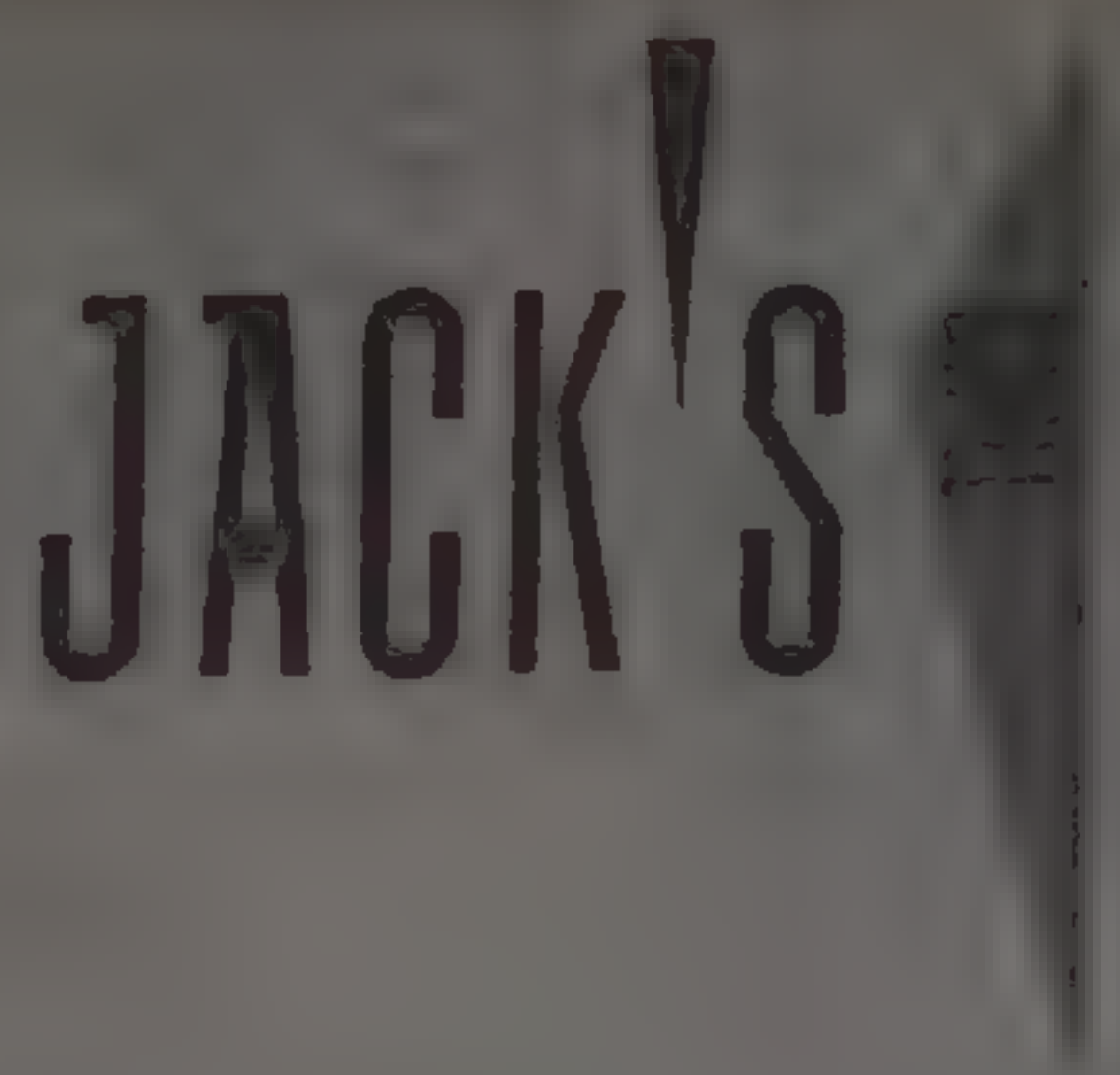
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When you have been brewing beer in the same location since 1843, and that location happens to be the birthplace of pale ale, you might be justified in bragging about your pedigree.

Burton-on-Trent in Staffordshire, England (in the north near Manchester) is widely celebrated as the home of the world's first pale ales—the copper-coloured, hoppy and complex ales that most people associate with English beer. Burton-on-Trent was the perfect location to develop this beer style, as its hard, carbonate-rich water draws out hop bitterness and compliments the soft caramel

and toffee malts in the beer.

In the mid-1800s, there were dozens of brewers in Burton-on-Trent producing millions of gallons of pale ale. Today, very few remain, including Bass and Marston's.

Marston's is England's largest independent brewery, and the last brewery in the region to still be using the traditional "Burton Union" brewing system of large, open oak vats. Most brewers abandoned this old system because it is more time-consuming and more labour intensive. Marston's must keep a cooper on the payroll to maintain the oak vats.

Pedigree is claimed to be Marston's higher-quality pale ale, supposedly compromising less on ingredients and process. It's still meant as a session beer, and at 4.5 per cent alcohol it seems in the right range.

**UPON POURING**, the beer walls of a sticky malt sweetness with a little caramel highlights. The hop aroma is moderate and noticeably floral. There are also some

fruity esters and a touch of citrus.

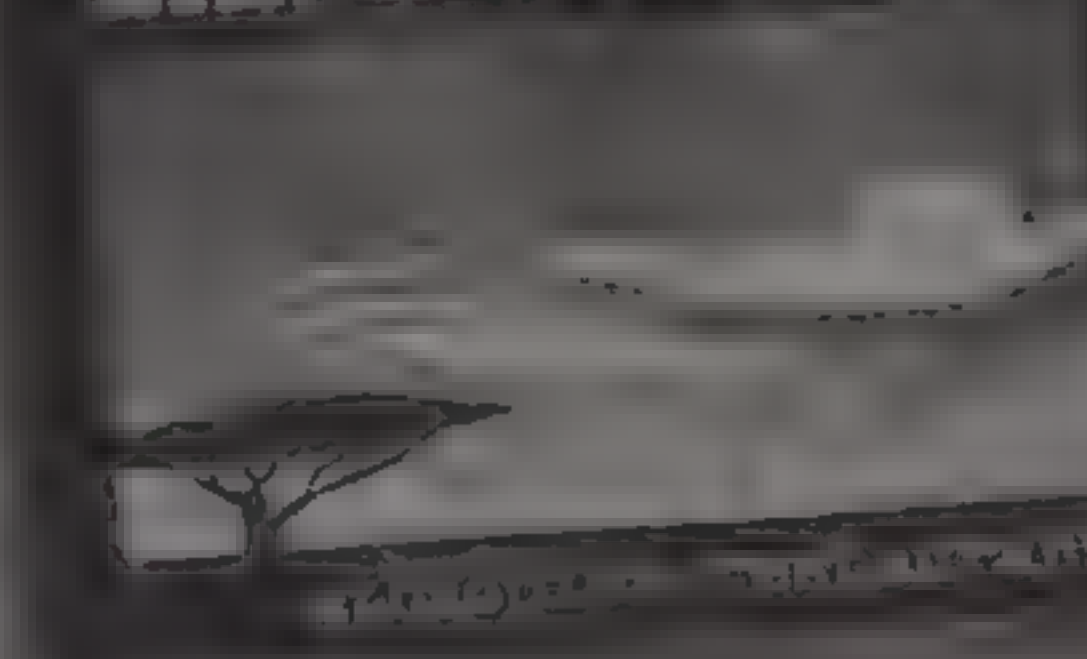
Pedigree is a light copper beer which builds a respectable white head. It's sparkling clear. Carbonation is fairly low and the beer presents as light and drinkable.

There is a moderate malt sweetness at first taste, rather sugary and simple. It's quickly overtaken, however, by hop flavour and bitterness. The hop is grassy and sharp. Fruit notes hide in the background of pear and light berry. The finish is dry and offers a lingering hop. There is also a metallic aftertaste which coats the roof of the mouth, detracting from the swallow.

It's not an unpleasant beer, but it could offer more. I was hoping for a little more malt complexity and a softer hop flavour. The metallic finish is a little worrisome, but it may be a single bottle issue; it was absent from a subsequent tasting.

On the whole, it's a middle-of-the-road English pale ale. There are many versions out there with less history but a firmer grasp on the pale ale tradition. ▼

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FOOD NEWS!

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should contact Dish Editor David Berry at [dish@vuwweekly.com](mailto:dish@vuwweekly.com). Please include "Writing for Dish" in the subject line.

### HOW DID THE COCK GET ITS TAIL?

Learn the secret to delectable summer cocktails next Thu, Jul 10 at deVine. Jennifer Katona from liquor distributors Charton Hobbs will be on hand to show you the perfect ingredients of the cocktail, whether you want to make a mean Manhattan or a tall, frosty Piña Colada. The best part is, once she's done showing you how to make them, you'll get to sample them. Visit [www.devinewines.ca](http://www.devinewines.ca) for more details or to sign up.

*Dish Weekly spills the beans on culinary events in Edmonton. Have an event our city's gourmands should know about? Just e-mail [dish@vuwweekly.com](mailto:dish@vuwweekly.com)*

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## ... but she does make a mean soup

JAN HOSTYN / [jeh@vuweekly.com](mailto:jeh@vuweekly.com)

I used to hate soup. Not all soup exactly, but the hearty, nourishing, fill-up-your-stomach-so-you-could-make-it-through-the-rest-of-your-school-day kind of soup. I'm talking about home-made concoctions like chicken feet soup, oyster stew and navy bean/fatty ham chowder. On good days we'd get warm, fluffy biscuits or soft, buttery buns with it, but on bad days that was lunch—just soup.

The years went by and I grew older, more mature and even a little bit wiser. And my taste buds evolved, as they have a habit of doing. Now soup is not just one of my favourite comfort foods, it's one of my favourite foods, period. There are still soups I don't like and never will (chicken feet

SOUP

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comes to mind), but, for the most part, I adore soup and will eat it for breakfast, lunch, or dinner—well, maybe not breakfast.

**Soul Soup**, a little take-out soup place, has been open for almost 2 1/2 years, but I've never even wandered past it. I'm sure I've eaten soup created by Soul Soup's soup designer, Carla Alexander, before—she was the soup master at Cu lina for a while; for her full background, see the profile on page 14—but I've never done the take-out thing. I think the downtown location is what got to me. I have

nightmares about parking there and avoid it at all costs.

But the day came when I was craving soup but didn't have the time or the desire to make my own, and the can-opener kind just wouldn't do. I wanted to pick something up for dinner, and, since they close at 6 pm, I thought I'd make the harrowing journey mid-afternoon and avoid the whole lunch crush.

**THE LITTLE SOUP KITCHEN** is tucked away nonchalantly in a corner of Rice Howard Way, low-key but with a confident aura. No neon signs, no glaring colours, just sedate simplicity—big windows, a plain exterior and a modest brown, white and pink sign.

The entrance to Soul Soup is actually via the restaurant/coffee shop



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next door. When I walked in late that Friday afternoon, the place was empty except for an intriguing, delicious smell. I was met by a small but open room with high ceilings, huge steaming soup pots and warm-yet-vibrant shades of bright fuchsia and chocolate brown surrounding me. A menu board, high and off to the side, listed the three soups of the day (one fish, one meat and one veggie) in red and pink, each number or letter on a retro-looking little square. It added to the eclectic, funky, nostalgic atmosphere of the place.

As I moved towards the huge pots of soup, Alexander, one of the owners of Soul Soup, emerged from the back with a friendly smile. I checked out the soups of the day, simmering away temptingly behind a glass counter that gave me a perfect view of what each looked like. There was a Southern Chicken Bacon Gumbo, a Red Curry with Tomato, Ginger and Romano Cheese and a Peruvian Shrimp and Corn Chowder. During the lunch rush, from 11am - 2 pm, they also do Bul-Go-Gi Rice Bowls for the non-soup lover (\$8), but I was too late for it to be an option.

After inspecting the soups, I decided on 8 oz of the Red Curry Soup and 8 oz of the Peruvian Shrimp instead of 16 oz of one kind—that way I'd get to sample more than one. I'm not an overly huge person, but 8 oz of soup wouldn't even come close to filling me up. You can get 8 oz for \$4, 16 oz for \$6.50, 32 oz for \$10, and 2 litres for \$20, and each order comes with a large Portuguese bun from the Handy Bakery.

While Carla ladled up my soup into nifty little containers, I noticed a sign saying that they also sold frozen soup. Since my freezer is always happier



when it contains soup, I couldn't resist. After intense deliberation, I chose a litre of the South Indian Salmon Rasam (\$9)—an Indian/Moroccan lentil soup with wild salmon—over the Thai Curry Pork with Almonds.

Desserts are usually from the Handy Bakery but, on days that they have a bit of extra time, they'll make something on the premises. Today wasn't such a day (darn), so I added two hefty slabs of in-house made cheddar cornbread (\$2 each) to my little carry-out bag and was on my way.

**BACK HOME,** I pried open the lids of both containers and unwrapped one of the pieces of cornbread. It looked so moist and yummy, with little bits of corn and

morsels of cheese, that I had to pop a chunk in before I even sat down at the table. It was incredible, absolutely incredible—I'd make the journey downtown just for that cornbread.

The soups each gave off complicated, intense aromas and, except for both being loaded with veggies, were quite different. The Peruvian Shrimp was thick, rich and filled with shrimp, corn, carrots, onions and celery. It was spicy but not overly hot and you could tell it was made with fish stock—it added an extra dimension.

My favourite was the Red Curry Soup. The broth was thinner and it kind of reminded me of minestrone, but with different spices and veggies. It was also loaded with carrots, onions and celery; the romano cheese added

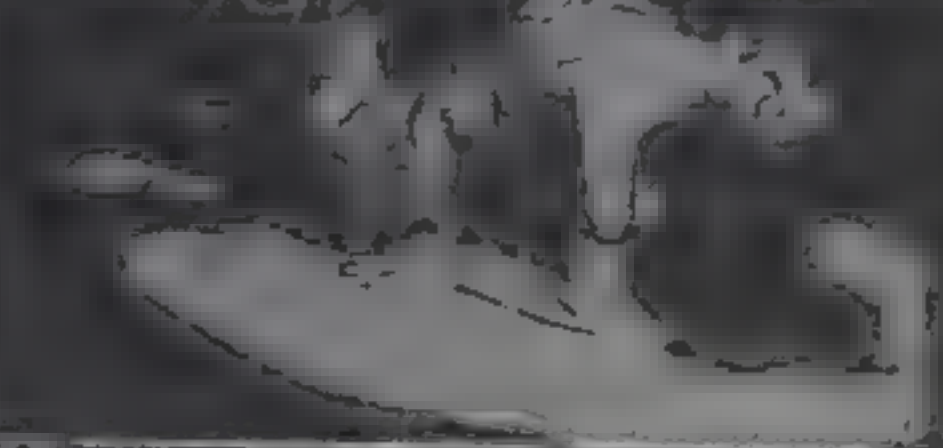
some bite as well as a bit of creaminess.

I evidently didn't get enough soup that night so I ended up thawing the South Indian Salmon Rasam way sooner than I was planning to. It didn't disappoint either. Thick with lentils, carrots, onions and celery, along with bits of tomato and plenty of chunks of wild salmon, it was complex, hearty and comforting.

The soups I sampled were bold and slightly exotic, with a depth you certainly won't find in a can. Kind of like the comfort foods you are used to, but with a bit of a twist. Brave the parking and seek out Soul Soup—the cornbread alone is definitely worth it. And if you work or live downtown, lucky you. ▼

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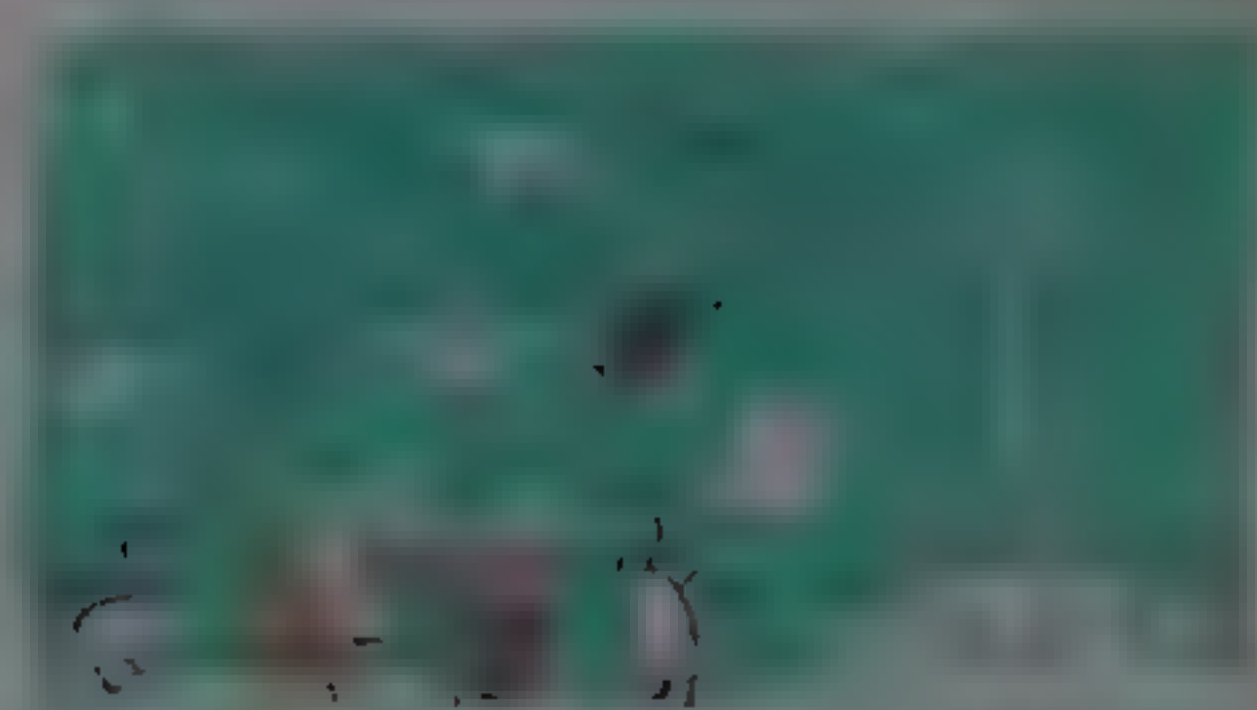
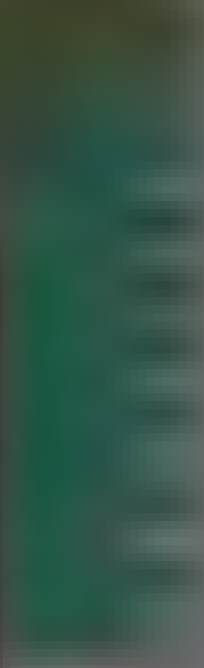
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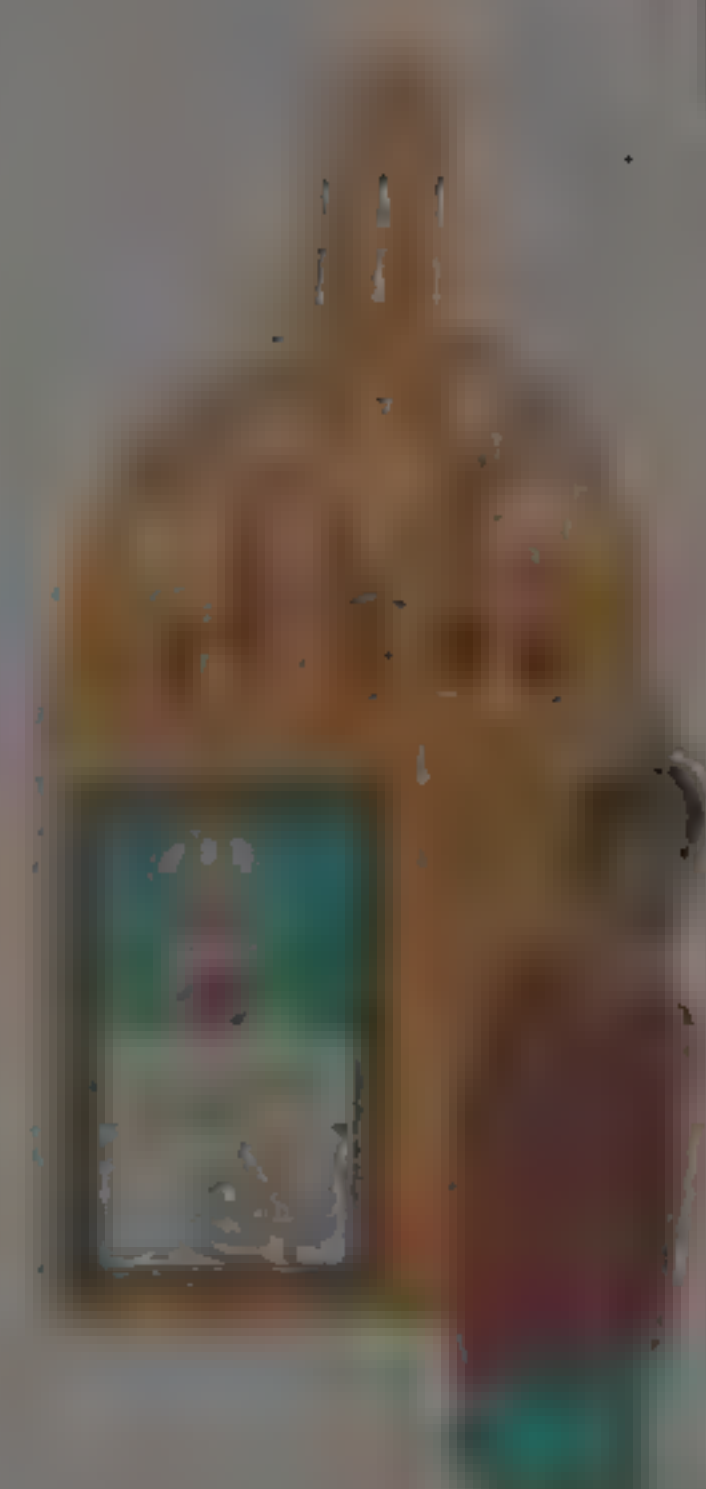
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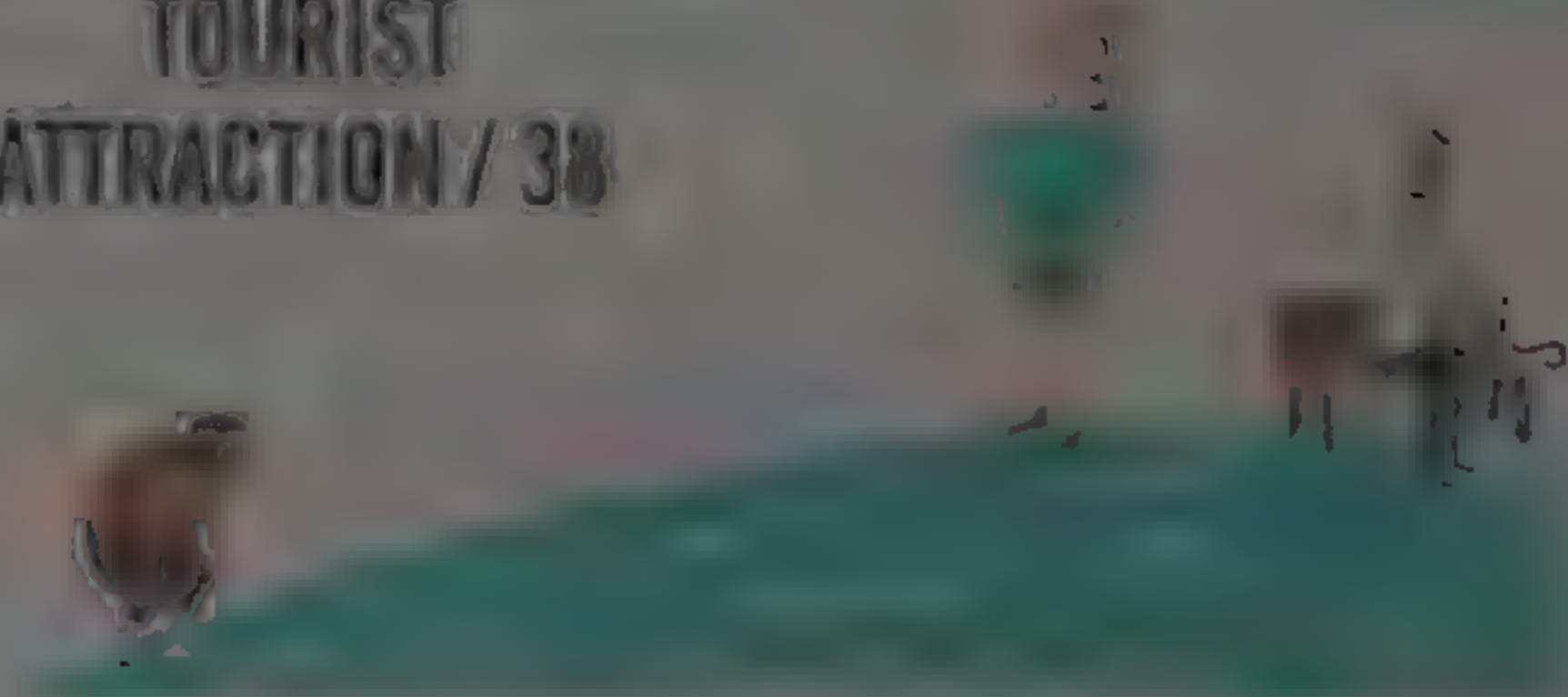
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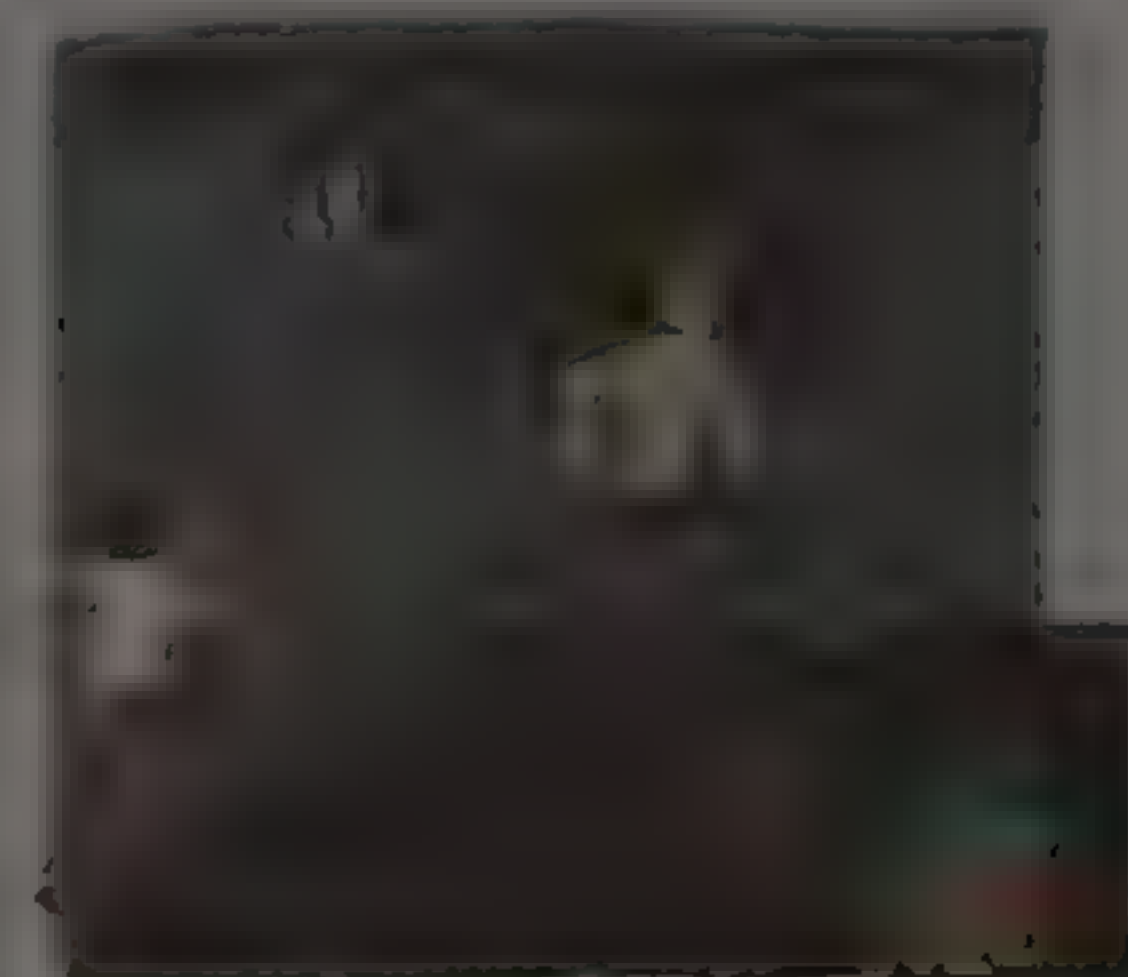
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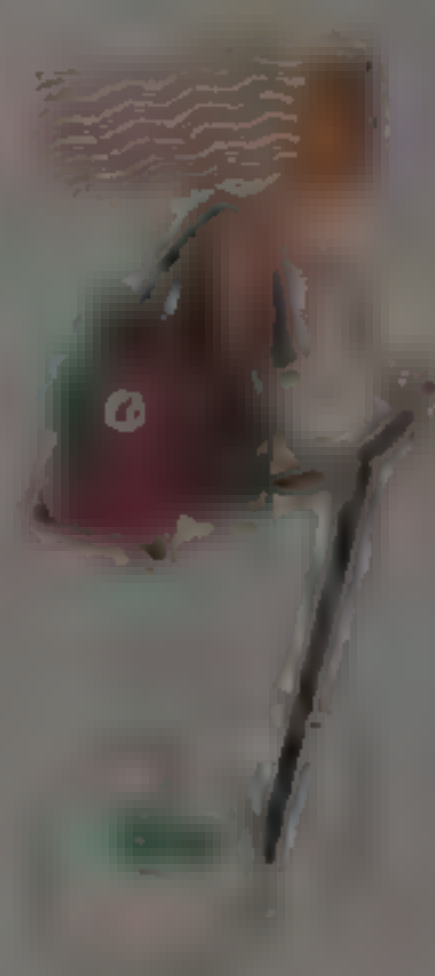


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PLUS MANY  
MORE!



# The Bestest of Edmonton

VUE STAFF

Here we go again, Edmonton! For the sixth year in a row we've called on our band of intrepid Vue writers (and our legions of Vue readers) to put pen to paper in celebration of the quirky, the quaint and the qualities that make our little city on the river the bestest it can be.

It's not about shaking pom-poms about local businesses or telling you the best places to get a roll of toilet paper after midnight—it's about celebrating all the little spaces, people and things that make us all love Edmonton despite or maybe because of, all its warts

## BESTEST CONTRIBUTORS

DAVID BERRY (DB), BRIAN BIRTLES (BB), CASEY BLAIS (CB), KRISTINA DE GUEZMAN (KD), AMY FUNG (AF), BRIAN GIBSON (BG), SCOTT HARRIS (SH), SHARLEEN HUSTON (SH), ELLA JAMESON (EJ), LEWIS KELLY (LK), TED KERR (TK), TREVOR KUPPLEN (TK), MARIA KOTOVYCH (MK), ERIN MICALLEK (EM), BILL RADFORD (BF), BRIAN SAUNDERS (BS), JAY SMITH (JS)

## BESTEST ROAD CONSTRUCTION FOR CYCLISTS

It's safe to say that cyclists are rarely especially delighted to see masses of petroleum-powered machinery scraping, tearing, bleeping, erecting, concreting, secreting and, in the end, consecrating more asphalt to the automobile. But the construction hoopla on Mill Creek Bridge is a great thing: for however many decades, this has been a death trap for cyclists. The super skinny, shared traffic sidewalks on either side of the bridge meant that cyclists had to dismount whenever they encountered a pedestrian. Hauling a bike trailer, there was no space for a pedestrian to pass easily at all. The new bridge looks like it has real space for a bike lane—yet another minor nod to cyclists in the city that makes our hearts beat with affection for bureaucrats. JS



Ave, a Simpsons Kwik-E-Mart style convenient store I've been frequenting since elementary school. The Canadian Tire gas bar at 11839 Kingsway Ave also sells slush-ice creams, if you're looking for something a little closer to downtown Edmonton. SH

## BESTEST FIELD TRIP FOR ECO-NERDS

Okay, it sounds really geeky, but guided tours of the Edmonton Waste Management Centre, where you can see what happens to your garbage after you leave it at the curb, are wicked. The Materials Recovery Facility, the giant composter, the new electronics recycling facility ... it's a couple of hours of green nerdery well spent. And, after you see the never-ending stacks of old computers, TVs and other electronics, you'll think twice about whether that old microwave is really so bad. (Call 496.6879 for details.) SH

## BESTEST THING I TOTALLY MISS

Anyone remember the rathole on 109 St and 104 Ave? Oh, sure it would fill up with water every once in awhile and there were always accidents in it and it's not as if traffic could flow through it very well, but tunnels are super cool and this city could use more of them. They always make me feel as if I'm a member of a super secret race of mole people that came from space to hide out among the humans and will, in time, save the world. BB

## BEST PLACE TO SEE THE STARS (IN THE SKY, THAT IS)

Elk Island National Park, just a short drive east of Edmonton, was named a key area in one of Canada's newest "dark sky preserves," meaning that it is one of the few places in the country that still features a pitch-black sky and is protected from light pollution. Armed with just a telescope, visitors can see millions of twinkling lights appear above them. Definitely one of the best places in Canada to gather for a night lost in the stars. EM

## BESTEST PHONE BOOTH

The one shaped like a violin with a cat hanging on its arm at the Valley Zoo. If there's a reason to go to the Valley Zoo, it's that. KD

## BESTEST RETURN

City bike racks! After almost a year with practically none on city streets, it's great to not have to search out trees, fences and other inanimate objects to stick a lock around. And as an added bonus, the new racks the city chose are sleek, functional and free. Now we just need a whole lot more. SH

## BESTEST PLACE TO HIDE OUT DURING A ZOMBIE ATTACK

With towering wooden walls and several look out points, Fort Edmonton is the best, and prettiest, place in town to fend off hordes of undead. Although the fur trading outpost was never used militarily, its advantages are obvious. Secluded in the river val-

ley, it will take the zombies a while to even find the place. You'll want to bring food with you, but everything else you could want is there: blankets, bear traps and even a blacksmith's shop. On the off chance that the zombies are smart enough to start a fire, you can always flee down the North Saskatchewan in a York Boat. BR

## BESTEST WAY TO USE THE CITY FOR FREE

If you're poor (and not a childless university or college student), get thee to a city facility for your membership in the Leisure Access Program. You get free, unlimited access to all city facilities: that's one year of working out at Kinsmen (retail value about \$700) or whatever sports and recreation facility you choose, gawking at animals at the Valley Zoo, checking out plants at the Muttart Conservatory and at the John Janzen Nature Centre and more. Plus, you get 75 per cent off all registered programs, from drawing nudes to

courses on cooking Indian to photography courses to experimental dance. (If you're taking an art course that requires supplies, you get 75 per cent off them, too. Hear that working artists?) It's perhaps the only major bonus of living below the poverty line during boomtimes. JS

## BESTEST STRETCH OF THE WHITEMUD FREEWAY

Looking for a stretch of road that feels like *buttah* under your tires? I have. Head east on the freeway, pass the exit for 34 St, and enjoy the soft, smooth, floating feeling. This well-paved section of the Whitemud makes my car happy; it can accelerate to its heart's content (within the confines of the speed limit, of course), without having to go for wheel alignment surgery afterwards. The road gently curves downward and then upward again, instantly transforming my car from a mere vehicle into an angel floating on a cloud. Fortunately, the

feeling is gone before 17 St approaches, preventing me from being lulled to sleep at the wheel. MK

## THE BESTEST OPENING DAY OF A GROCERY STORE

Sadly and predictably, the Sobey's on 104th. It was a glorious Thursday, with everyone from off-duty politicians to the denizens of downtown gathered together under one roof, everyone, at least for that one opening day, reveled in the samples of gigantic strawberries, the presence of an oyster bar and a new building that for once, was not ugly and attached to a sprawling parking lot. AF

## BESTEST SLURPEE ACCESSORY

Ice cream. That's right, a combination of slush topped with ice cream is the best combination in the summer heat. Sometimes called a screamer, a slush-ice cream is a hard treat to find in E-town. The best can be found at the Reder in St Albert at 80 McKenney



## THE BEST OF EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

### BESTEST MUSIC VENUE FOR MOONY

Sure the pews can be a little hard on the butt, the acoustics aren't great when the volume gets cranked and you can't drink a beer ... but at what music venue other than McDougall United Church can you be treated to cognitive dissonance like listening to Geoff Berner belt out, "You've all been worshipping a false messiah / I pray to God that I got here in time to guide you" while he's standing on the pulpit under a cross. Just take a step back so you don't get hit by the lightning. **SH**

### BESTEST PLACE TO TAKE A KID WHEN YOU WANT TO READ A MAGAZINE

As far as inanimate objects go, the Edmonton Public Library is some babysitter. There isn't a single branch that isn't a paradise for small illiterates. Trains, boats, stuffed tortoises, running room, screaming room, puzzles, toys—not to mention a virtually unquantifiably large stock of DVDs and picture books. In a city that is hardly brimming with veritable public spaces, the public library is a beacon for the child-harried and anti-consumeristic. And, though the librarians probably won't thank you if junior throws a fit while your back is turned, this is one of the few places in town where you don't have to worry about leaving your offspring alone for five minutes while you plough through the latest celebrity rag or knitting magazine or *New York Times*. Plus, your kid gets a free library card (to back yours up

### BESTEST PLACE TO FEEL LIKE YOU'RE IN AN ALFRED HITCHCOCK FILM

I love Edmonton Research Park. I really do. With its many ponds, fountains and picnic tables, the Research Park is an absolutely lovely place to go for a picnic on a Sunday afternoon. If you're not attacked by swarms and swarms of geese, that is. I'm not sure what kind of research they do in this park, but judging from the hundreds of mentally-unstable geese that call this park home, I'm guessing that some scientists are up to no good. **BS**



when you've somehow managed to accumulate \$87 in late charges) and a free book with membership if she is under the age of two. **JS**

### BESTEST WAY TO DROP HISTORY FOOTNOTES IN CASUAL CONVERSATION

About this time last year, just after

Bestest of Edmonton 2007 went to press, brown street signs were put up around Mr Garneau's neighbourhood, reading "The Garneau" on top, with a symbol of the tree that marks the spot where Garneau's homestead once stood. The best part of these signs is that, beneath

today's impersonal numbers, there's the Old Strathcona street name. So now you can utterly confuse your friends on answering machines while dropping some history, preferably peppered with "Garneau" as much as possible: "Let's catch the latest over at the Garneau tonight.

Meet you at the corner of Royal Avenue and Antony Street at nine o'clock." And the Garneau tree? You can find it a stone's throw from the corner of Saskatchewan Drive and ... Garneau Street. **BG**

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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## THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

Continued from page 22

### BESTEST PLACE TO LOOK IF YOU NEED TO FIND ANY VUE EDITOR AT LUNCHTIME

Mucho Burrito. Good God, we're all hopelessly addicted. So close. So good. And the mucho size could feed a family of four for a week. Or one of us for an hour or so. SH

### BESTEST PLACE TO STUMBLE UPON INDOOR TROPICAL PLANTS

When I was in my first year at the U of A, I walked around campus, exploring all the quiet corners to see what I could find. Walking near the Students' Union Building one day, I discovered with great delight the Ag/For Atrium, a small indoor enclave containing tropical plants, trees and even a few colourful birds. Okay, this space isn't shaped like a huge pyramid or anything fancy like that, but it's a surprisingly peaceful place on campus, particularly for someone who wishes to sit or stroll quietly in reflection, or to relax before an exam. MK

### BESTEST WAY TO ENSURE YOUR MAYORAL LEGACY WHILE GIVING CORPORATE HANDOUTS

Float an idea. Stock the committee that is ostensibly supposed to examine the feasibility of the idea with obviously pro-side executives, many of whom are drawn from the group that would most directly benefit from the idea. Make sure the major local media are all on board. Ignore the advice of one of the world's pre-eminent minds on the subject (who just happens to teach at the U of A). Take the advice of a glorified phys ed instructor. Come to a clearly forgone conclusion. Claim no public money will go towards idea, without offering other options, and while ignoring the public money that has already gone to examine idea. Build arena downtown. QED. DB

### BESTEST EVENING NEWS TEAM

Look I don't want to hurt any feel-

### BESTEST ALTERNATIVE TO A GARDEN Gnome

On the 127 St bicycle contra-flow lane at 112 Ave, cyclists are greeted with the open maw of a sculpted metal fish as they head south. It's cool, it's unique and it sure beats Astroturf lawns and plastic pink flamingos. SH



### BESTEST UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE OF THE INEVITABLE NEW DOWNTOWN ARENA

Explaining to out-of-towners why we decided to honour Wayne Gretzky with a street that runs past an eternally empty parking lot. DB

### BESTEST WAY TO PROVE BEYOND A DOUBT THAT IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER POLITICAL FLOOD TO CLEAN THE SLATE

Put a friggin' dome over Churchill Square. Go ahead. Do it. Morons. What a ridiculous idea. SH

### BESTEST LOCAL CD COVER TO LOOK AT TO FIGURE OUT IF YOU'RE COOL ENOUGH TO KNOW ANY EDMONTONIANS ON THERE

Cadence Weapon's latest, *Afterparty Babies*, offers a huge cast of cool-

looking E-towners behind the man. Scour the faces for anyone you know—the more you know, rack up the points depending on how many degrees of separation are between you and them. But if you can figure out where they took that photo, you may be going a little too far beyond cool. DB

### BESTEST REASON TO ACTUALLY DO YOUR HAIR

Have you seen the girls on Whyte Ave? Damn!!! BR

### BESTEST PLACE TO BLOW OFF STEAM

Locomotive #107 arrived at Fort Edmonton Park in the 1970s and was recently featured in the Brad Pitt movie, *The Assassination of Jesse James*. This authentic 1919 engine runs on the energy produced by heat-

ing over 9400 litres of water to produce steam. One of Fort Edmonton's premier features, the locomotive moves awe-struck tourists around the park at no charge. EJ

### THE BESTEST UNDERUSED VENUES

Community Leagues! Taking a tour of as many community leagues as I could get, Edmonton's proud history of being a leader in establishing a federation of community leagues leaves behind a host of available venues with built in stages, bars, kitchens, tables and chairs and, more often times than not, incredibly outdated decor that remains underused and underseen. Though you have to usually belong to that specific community to get in, the untapped potential is downright shameful. AF

### BESTEST PLACE TO GET FREE BASPERRIES IN THE CITY

Having spent some time in the Bonnie Doon area, I've always found the best way of getting a free snack of berries in the summer is to take a cruise down a back alley. Full of character, Edmonton's back lanes offer up no shortage of surprises and a few treasures too, not least of which are the plentiful berry bushes growing alongside the fence line of many properties. In my thinking, any bushes on the alley side or berries sticking through the fence are fair game for a scoop. Reaching through the fence boards or over the fence to grab at the berries—which I of course wouldn't recommend here—does help increase your health. DB

### BESTEST REASON TO NOT TAKE THE CAR TO SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON

The high rate of auto theft in the area. So much so that when I was still working there, we had a cop come into the store and give us pamphlets and inform us that cars specifically designed to catch car thieves were placed throughout the area. And with the 23 Ave/Calgary Trail interchange construction delaying traffic nearby for the next three years, biking, bus-

### BESTEST FUTURE GHOST TOWNS

You people aren't seriously going to be living in Rutherford once gas hits \$2 a litre, are you? DB





ing or walking to, from and within this shopping complex might be better options. KD

### BESTEST PLACE TO FORGET THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY IN THE CITY

Terwillegar Park Hands down. Located on Rabbit Hill Road, this park captures everything that is good about the River Valley. The nature has largely been left alone, allowing people to surround themselves with the natural scenery. When you stand in certain places in the park, you can actually look in all directions and see nothing but nature—no buildings, houses or roads in sight. Dog owners will enjoy the off-leash opportunities provided by the park, as will other animal-lovers who might spot a beaver building a dam in one of the small lakes within the park. Biking/hiking trails allow visitors to enjoy their hobbies without disturbing the surrounding habitat. Spend a long enough time in Terwillegar Park, and you might forget that you haven't left town. MK

### BESTEST REASON TO HAVE SOME HOPE FOR ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY

It goes without saying that for people with left of centre (hell, for centre of right) political views, participation in elections at any level of government are typically an exercise in frustration and dismay. So Don Iveson's Ward 5 victory over incumbent Mike Nickel in the October municipal election brought elation to many who had all but given up the process. A young, articulate guy with smart, forward-thinking ideas, a hard-working election team and the energy to

### BESTEST PLACE TO SEE SOME AMAZING GRAFFITI

Unknown to most people in the city, there is actually a place in Edmonton where graffiti artists are legally allowed to paint. And do they ever! Just north of 105th Ave, and just east of 95th St—right where the LRT tunnel pops out of the ground—there is a very long wall absolutely covered in graffiti. Commonly referred to as "the freeway," this area is loaded with very complex and detailed pieces of graffiti. Check it out on a sunny afternoon and not only will you get to see some mind-blowing graffiti that you won't see anywhere else in the city, you might even see some of the artists in action! BS



knock on practically every door in the ward beats a conservative incumbent with whackloads of cash who ran an I'm-taking-victory-for-granted campaign? Who would've thunk it? SH

### BESTEST DAY TRIP OUT OF THE CITY

Pembina River Provincial Park is a great place to get away from the city to relax, have a BBQ and float down the

Pembina River. My grade nine outdoor class had a canoe trip that started at the campground, and I've made the trip back numerous times with an air mattress and a tube to catch some sun and have a leisurely float down the slow moving river with friends. Just over an hour west of the city, the Pembina River is close enough to make for a quick day trip, but fun enough to keep you want-

ing to come back next weekend. Take the Yellowhead west to Entwistle and look for the signs. Don't forget the waterproof sunscreen. SH

### BESTEST PLACE TO SHOP AND PROP UP THE ECONOMY WHILE GETTING PLENTY OF EXERCISE

South Edmonton Common. See if you can avoid any direct gas-guzzling and

bike or bus down. Once you're there feel the strangeness as you walk from store to store. Everyone else drives from parking lot to parking lot, so, in this self-contained planet for cars, just getting from one big box store to the other feels like an Everest scale trek. Sherpa your shopping bags, though.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24

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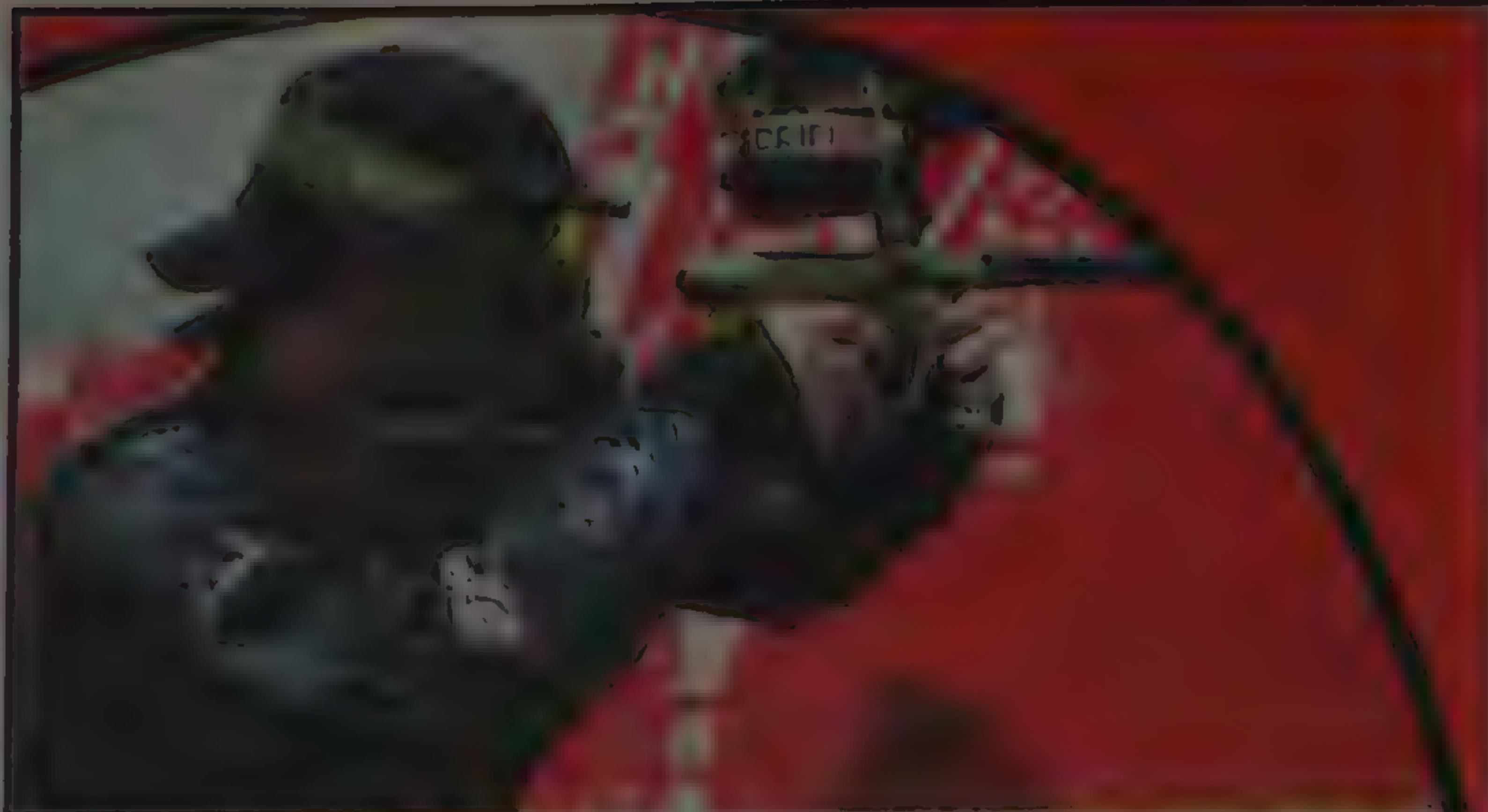
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you can always bring your own reusable bags) from jean store to home & garden store to that Swedish DIY store, where you can spend hours just walking through the maze of furniture-besieged pathways and shortcut passages, as if it's a *Clue* board (solution: Mr Bergstrom with the Allen-Key Wrench in the Kids' Ball Room). Then it's back out and onto the non-side-walked roads, because South Edmonton Common is also ... BG

#### BESTEST PLACE TO JAYWALK

The lights last so long at South Edmonton Common anyway, it's best to skip across the street. There'll be some super-sized befuddlement and annoyance, though, if drivers have to watch out for you. BG

#### BESTEST WAY TO BLOW \$250

Cross the street on the flashing hand. DB

#### BESTEST GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN SLOGAN

Following the rash of break-and-enter sexual assaults in the University area, the Garneau Sisterhood postered the community asking for tips as to the identity of the perpetrator. Their slogan? "Be a snitch, save a snatch." SH

#### THE BESTEST NEW ART SPACE

The ARTery has stepped in and found an unending list of people and organizations hoping to rent its facilities. Managed by the ever impressive Lori Garwyiluk with a powerhouse roster of right-hand women running the show, the ARTery has grown from its sister space, Studio E, which was always more akin to somebody's secret hang out spot, into a full blown public venue in high demand. AF

#### BESTEST WAY TO INDULGE YOUR WAYWARD UKRAINIAN ROOTS

Go to Bacon and get some perogies on the side. DB

#### BESTEST PLACE FOR A QUICK CULTURE JAM TO PROTEST OVERCONSUMPTION

Based on the number of times I've noticed that it's been done, a lot of people out there have realized that if you knock out the lights of the first six letters of a Capilano Mall sign, you've got yourself a nice, bright anti-consumer billboard without too much effort. Not that we're encouraging it ... SH

#### BESTEST CIVIC EUPHEMISM

Edmonton's "Downtown East Side" Though it's not exactly new news anymore, the fact that Edmonton now has a "Downtown East Side" remains impressive, if only in the label's tenacity. Christening the communities, uh, east of downtown, as "Downtown East Side" hopes for a rhetorical effect that approaches the hell of what Vancouver namesake represents. Except it doesn't. Rather, it's a thinly-veiled ploy to justify gentrification in the neighbourhood. Hurrah. JS

#### BESTEST ABANDONED LOT ON WHICH TO SET UP A LEMONADE STAND IN THE SUMMER

The slat of weeds and wild grass on the south side of Whyte Avenue, between 108 and 109 St, is bereft of any store. A sour, sad place? No way—

#### BESTEST CITY-SPONSORED USE OF A WOODEN SHACK

The Greenshack Program that the City of Edmonton offers in the summer is absolutely fantastic. Thanks to the program, parents who are looking to get a little bit of time to themselves can drop off their kids at the park for a couple of hours. The children, in turn, get to meet other kids from their neighborhood and participate in fun, organized activities. All the while, the kids are under the careful supervision of a city employee who has training in CPR, Arts and Crafts and First Aid. BS



one of E-town's intrepid entrepreneurs should make lemonade out of lemons. Nothing's better than some ade on a hot summer day. The other eight months of the year? How about some art installations back in there? At least make it an open graffiti site ... BG

#### BESTEST FIREWORKS ON CANADA DAY

If you head to Broadmoor Lake Park in Sherwood Park, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the quality and duration of the Canada Day fireworks display. The location lends itself to a community-like feeling during the fireworks, and the modest size of the crowd also allows people to retain some semblance of personal space while enjoying the fireworks. Furthermore, obnoxious drunk behaviour by those expressing their "true patriot love" is less prevalent here than on Whyte or Jasper. MK

#### BESTEST (MOST INTERESTING) CHURCH ART

I recently attended a Kokopelli concert in Sacred Heart Church. It's downtown. The singing was enchanting, but I was equally mesmerized by the fusion of Christian and Native American mythology depicted on the walls. There was a statue of an Aboriginal Jesus Christ, and a painting of the crucifixion overseen by a ghostly buffalo. Directly behind the pulpit, there was a mural of a dancing Native American. It was pretty cool. BB

#### BESTEST UNINTENTIONAL WHITE POWER T-SHIRT

Of course they didn't mean it, and it is their frequency, but if CJSR has been getting more donations from skinheads than they expected it's probably because the giant 88 on their latest FunDrive T-shirts is also the Nazi code for "Heil Hitler" ... you know ... H ... eighth letter of the alphabet ... HH ... kind of unfortunate, really. SH

#### BESTEST PLACE FOR RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Since the city has decided to drag our transit system, kicking and screaming, into the late-20th century, there are

plenty of nice things to say about Edmonton Transit System. Everyone should take ETS until they have several good anecdotes to tell about how friggin' awesome strangers are in this town. My favourite involves a serious toddler meltdown and ancient African lady who barely spoke English, but nonetheless managed to communicate that she had nine children survive infancy. This ancient, 'untoothed

lady, pulled out a banana, insisted on taking the child onto her lap, immediately calmed the raging thing in five seconds flat. Not bad. Had I been driving, I'm sure I would have been aiming for the ditch. JS

#### BESTEST PLACE FOR RANDOM ACTS OF STRANGENESS

Uh, ETS wins this one, too. Where else can you hear the sordid divorce

tale of a starfish-shaped 60-year-old, or witness an 11-year-old nearly pass out because she's just had surgery and her mother thought that calling a cab home would break the bank? Where can you stand sweaty and crammed amongst the after-work masses and uncomfortably close to an ex-lover with whom you're still net

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26)

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on speaking terms? The spirit of urbanity is the movement of the masses and its coincident ability to bring out the strangeness of human coexistence. Just keep repeating that to yourself, not even under your breath, when you're waiting in the cold for the next bus to come. People might stare. That's okay. JS

#### BESTEST FREE PUBLIC HISTORY LESSON

The signs that line MacDonald Drive explaining the history of our river valley. Did you know they used to mine coal down there? Or how often it used to flood? Or that they used to keep a live, apparently "troublesome" brown bear in a cage in the baseball park? DB

#### BESTEST PLACE TO STREET LUGE

You're guaranteed a death-defying ride if you take Fort Hill Road (87 Ave and 106A St), but if you can make it down to the bottom, you'll crash-land in the somewhat soft brush and bush around the ravine trail. BG

#### BESTEST POLITICAL JUKE

Blogger Dave Cournoyer linking his appropriated Ed Stelmach website to the wikipedia page for Harry Strom. Zing! DB

#### BESTEST PLACE TO STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES

Plus bunches of other flowers that I can't identify—pollinate your nose as you stroll past the amazing front-yard garden at 86 Ave and 108A St. BG

#### BESTEST THING TO DO DURING SUMMER RAINSTORMS

Get wet. Really. Yes, it's been raining a lot recently. So what? Stop complaining. It's good for all the local chlorophyll. You like chlorophyll, don't you? That's the stuff that keeps the grass and the trees green, as opposed to brown. The next time it's raining, go outside and let yourself get soaked. You might just feel a little more vibrant yourself. BR

BESTEST PLACE TO HEAD TO IF YOU'RE STILL UPSET ABOUT THE MODERATELY VIETNAMESE STORE AND THE SOMEWHAT JAPANESE EMPORIUM GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

Obviously. SH

#### BESTEST USE OF A LIBRARY BASEMENT

Did you know that you can actually see plays in the basement of the Stanley A Milner Library? Well, you can. Head downstairs, and you'll find the Centennial Room, the Edmonton Room and the Stanley A Milner Theatre. Within the walls of these multi-use rooms you can routinely watch plays by community theatre groups, view film screenings, attend Reading Clubs and witness other activities. Located next to—well, below, actually—Churchill Square, this collection of spaces is accessible by the LRT, which is always a bonus. MK

#### BESTEST POLITICAL RIPOSTE

Seventy-two of 83 seats. Fucking ouch. DB

#### BESTEST BAR/CARNIVAL

Together at last! The Strat might be the only bar/carnival (or "barnival," if you will) around. Not only can you enjoy a very cheap beer (Sraft) in a less than classy environment (this may be an understatement—some of the bathroom stalls don't have doors), but you can also snack on your favourite carnival fare at the same time. From popcorn to hotdogs, it's all there. Not to mention the pickled

eggs, which are a Strat staple. The introduction of corn dogs would be a groundbreaking idea. There is no better place to spend a Straturday! ED

#### BESTEST CITY COUNCILLOR

Amarjeet Sohi. He responds to emails right away (heck, he'll even call you instead of responding to the email),

has a great sense of humour and while he understands how frustrating

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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#### BESTEST GRAVITY-DEFYING GRAFFITI

Head north on the pedestrian walkway under the LRT bridge over the river and you can't help but notice the splash of colour halfway up one of the concrete supports of the High Level Bridge. How someone managed to pull that piece of graffiti (graviti?) off, and why the hell they'd bother, always makes me shake my head. SH



#### THE BESTEST IN EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

and crappy our public transit system is, he still decides to take the bus. KD

#### BESTEST PROVINCIAL POLITICIAN WHO ISN'T SITTING IN THE LEGISLATURE

Hands down, Green candidate for Lacombe-Ponoka Joe Anglin. He's only been an Albertan for four years, but he's already become a civic leader, spearheading the fight against Bill 46. A populist in the best sense of the word, he's got the sense to be progressive and the ability to explain things to people in terms they understand and can relate to. Pay attention, urban, college-educated progressives: this is the type of person you need to win in Alberta. DB

#### BESTEST THING ABOUT EDMONTON'S COLD CLIMATE

Back in March and April, stores around town started to get in their spring stock. This meant that sweaters and scarves went heavily on sale while there was still snow on the ground. I scored big. For cheap. Now it's June and I'm still wearing my discounted sweaters and scarves. I'm as anxious for warm weather as the next guy, but in the meantime, I look sexy as fuck. BR

#### BESTEST PLACE TO GO IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO CHURCH BUT DON'T REALLY KNOW WHICH ONE YOU SHOULD GO TO

Some say that religion is like a market. If you head to Downtown right below Little Italy

between 97 St and 92 St, you might agree. With about seven churches located within a block of each, you should have a fairly good idea by Sunday noon which church is for you (or perhaps, if church isn't for you at all). KD

#### BESTEST IDEA AS LONG AS YOU DON'T THINK ABOUT IT

Imagine if Hawrelak Park was a beach. Did I just blow your mind? I can't really take the credit; it was Stephen Mandel's idea. Of course, if you think about this too hard, you'll probably start to see problems, but don't think that hard about it. Just picture warm sand, crying gulls, no more road trips to build sandcastles and all those guys with shark tooth necklaces finally having somewhere to go on the weekends. Isn't it beautiful? BR

#### BESTEST THEATRE TO CATCH INDIAN FILMS

Despite the frustrating traffic in and around South Common, there's one thing worth checking out there. At the South Common Cineplex Odeon, you will find fairly long lineups waiting to see recent Hindi and Tamil films with high-profile Indian actors such as "Sarkar Raj" with Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and "Dasavatham" with Kamal Hassan. Whoever is making the film selections should be applauded for choosing films that don't stick to the typical Bollywood fare of predictable plots and never-ending music and dance sequences. KD

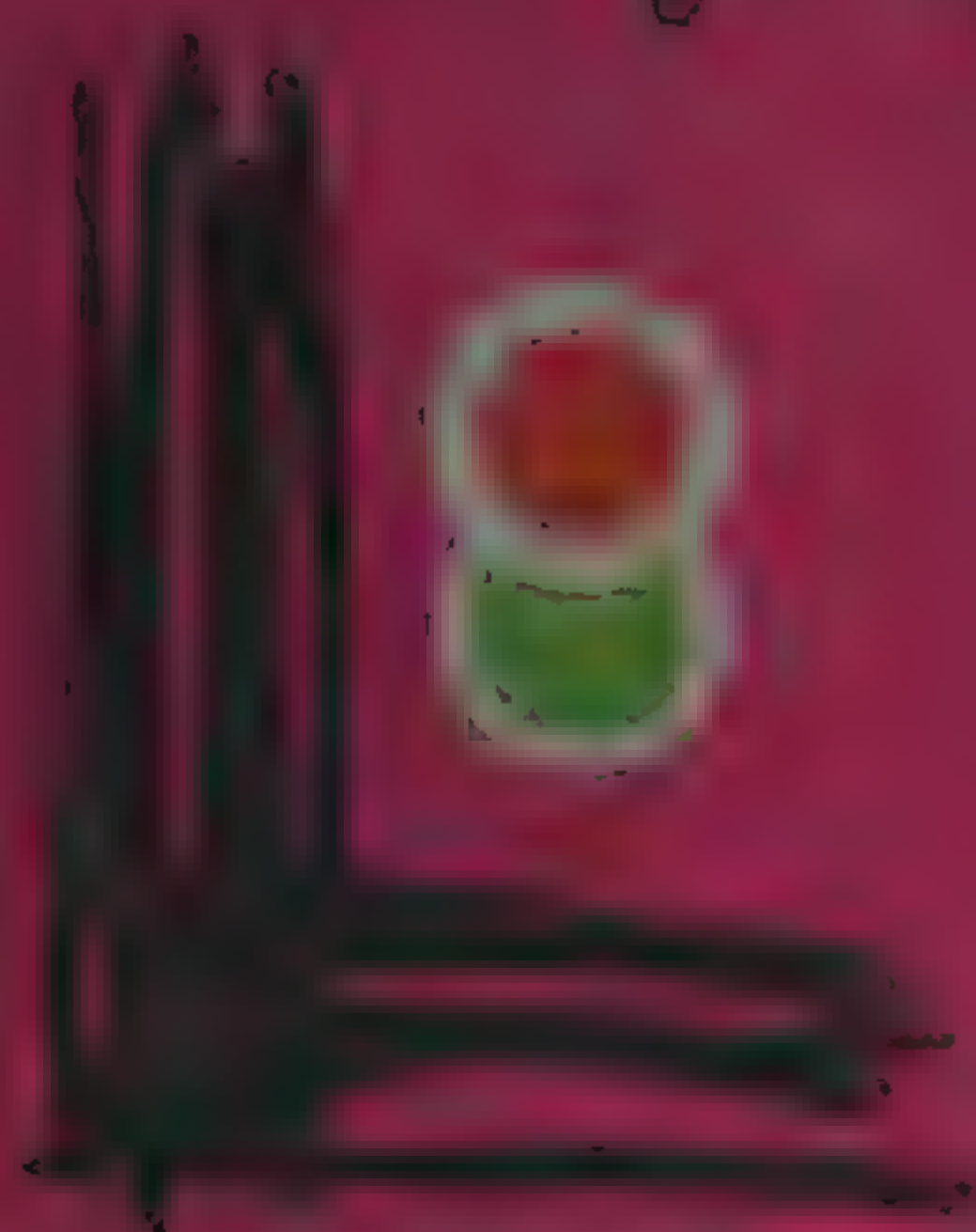
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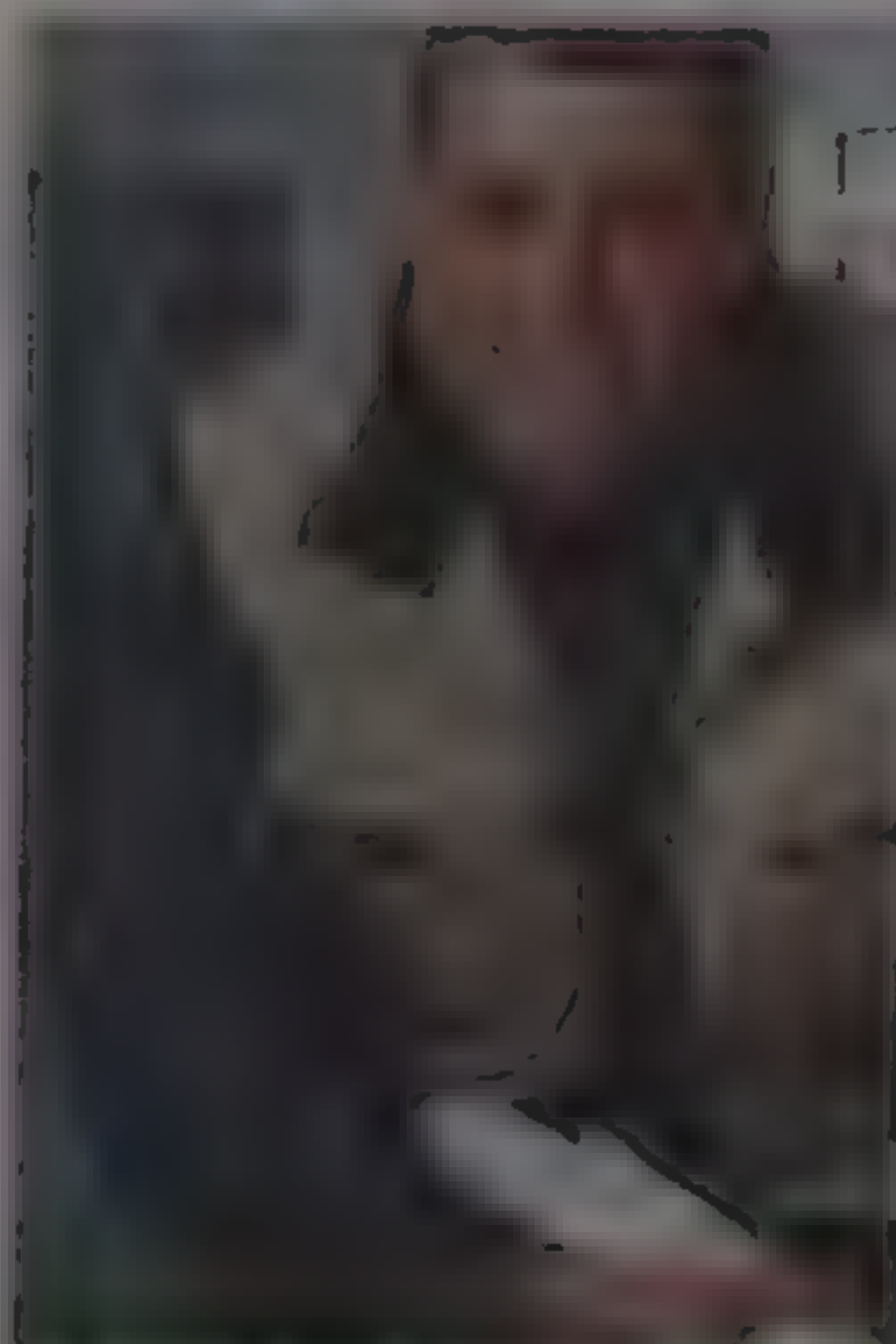
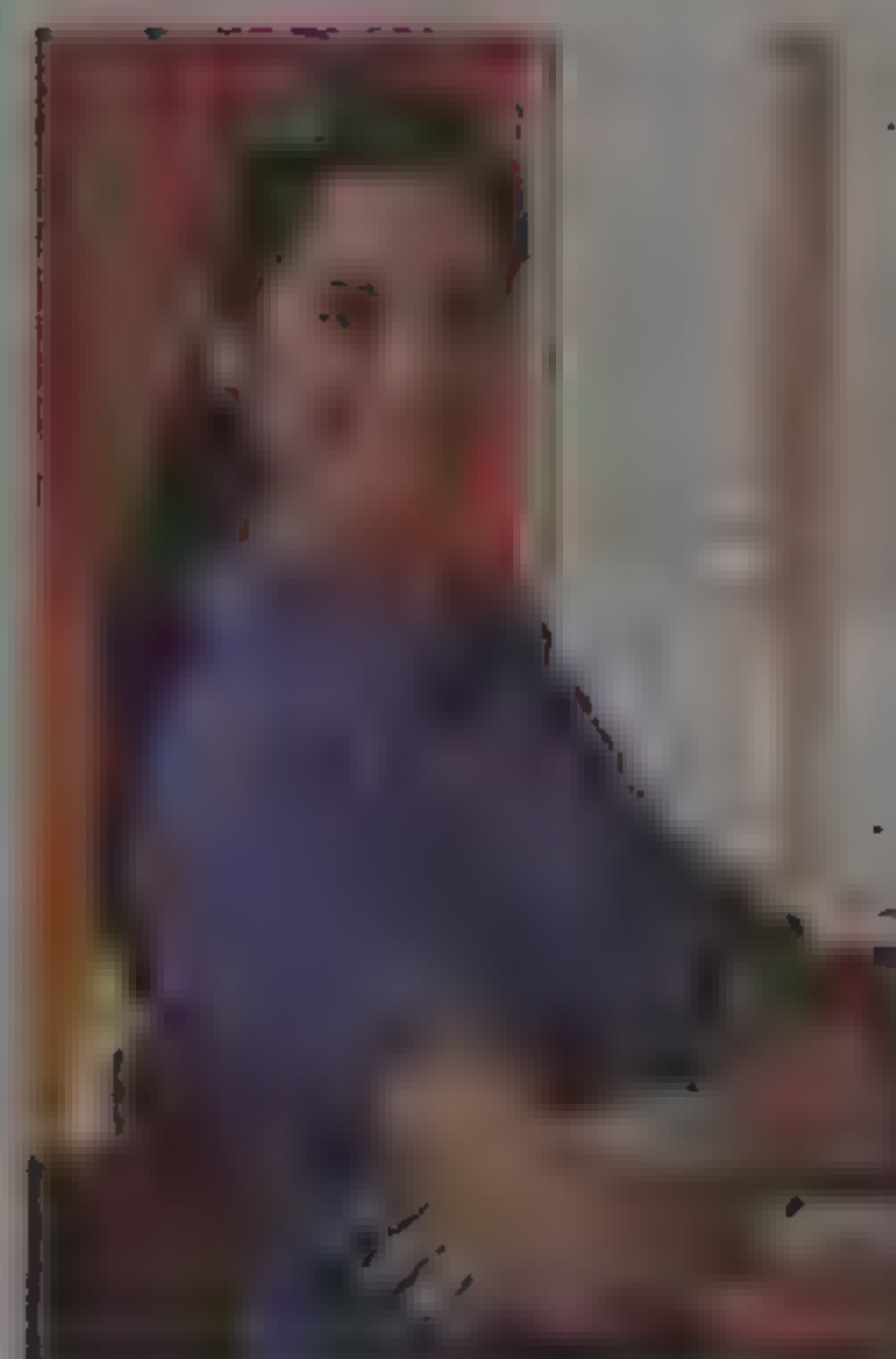
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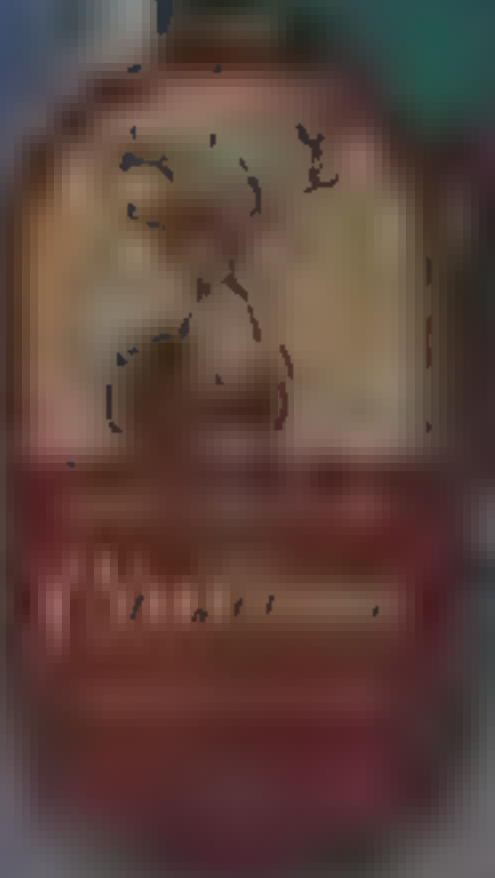
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### BESTEST WAY TO BE SCOLDED AND GLARED AT BY SENIOR CITIZENS

Every week, a different location is announced. Every Wednesday, full-grown adults descend upon this predetermined spot and immediately start acting like four-year-olds. In a desperate attempt to evade capture and win the game, participants jump fences, run through fields and even climb the occasional rooftop. Officially called Manhunt, it's a great way to meet new people, to get some exercise and to become the subject of intense interest by baffled onlookers. To see this week's location check out manhunt-edmonton.com. BS

### THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

#### BESTEST WAY TO GET OUT OF TOWN

I dunno, dogsled? Damn, gas is expensive. Airplane rides have gone way up too. I guess this is why we need a man-made beach. BR

#### BESTEST CONSTRUCTION-RELATED TRAFFIC DELAYS

The ribbon of LRT that's making 111 St a car glacier every rush hour, if only because it's a step towards making traffic delays a distant memory. DB

#### BESTEST ASYMMETRICAL DESIGN MISAP

The mall/business strip along 109 St sandwiched between 105 and 106 Ave. On one side are similarly designed earthy toned, Mediterranean-styled stores and fast-food chains while the other side consists of business offices which either look run-down, abandoned, in the process of renovation or a combination of all three. It also feels like you're in a time warp of some sort or in a different world all-together depending on which side you decide to look at. The decrepit buildings are classically '60s concrete-crazed ~~upside down~~ the new business offices are aesthetically pleasing and show the potential of a good business strip. Maybe in a few years. KD

#### BESTEST HELP-WANTED SIGN

The one in the Remedy Café window that demands its potential applicants

not be tools *and* be ready with creative pastry names. It's nice to see a place that's managed to keep its standards high even in this labour market DB

#### BESTEST EFFORT TO FIND A LOST PET

You really have to hand it to the people who lost Zander, their pet Belgian Sheppard, and put more effort into recovering their beloved dog than most people would put into finding a lost child. They covered pretty much every outdoor surface in the city centre with full-colour signs in a no-holds-barred effort to find Zander. I don't know if they ever got him back, but they definitely deserved to. SH

#### BESTEST (AND MOST UNDERAPPRECIATED) GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION

Community leagues. Sure, every major city has a Chinatown and a Little Italy but you won't find Vancouver or Toronto divided into sections and given names like Callingwood, Lendrum or Knottwood—with each having a certain degree of independence when it comes to having a voice and making decisions. These neighbourhood representatives which consist strictly of volunteers have become so inherent that we forget that Edmonton's the Canadian city that has had community leagues the longest (since 1921), continuing to have a strong presence with 150 in existence today. While stereotypically portrayed to be of no use other than providing recreational facilities and community halls, these grassroots organizations create Neighbourhood



Watches to help keep the area where you live safe, meet with schools to discuss new potential programs and generally act as a mediator between outsiders and residents to create discussions and arrive on a consensus about upcoming projects and developments in a particular area. They're also a great source to find out what social events are taking place where you live. In turn, you can get to know your neighbours better and have a sense of community instead of fueling the urban isolation. KD

#### BESTEST URBAN PLANNING

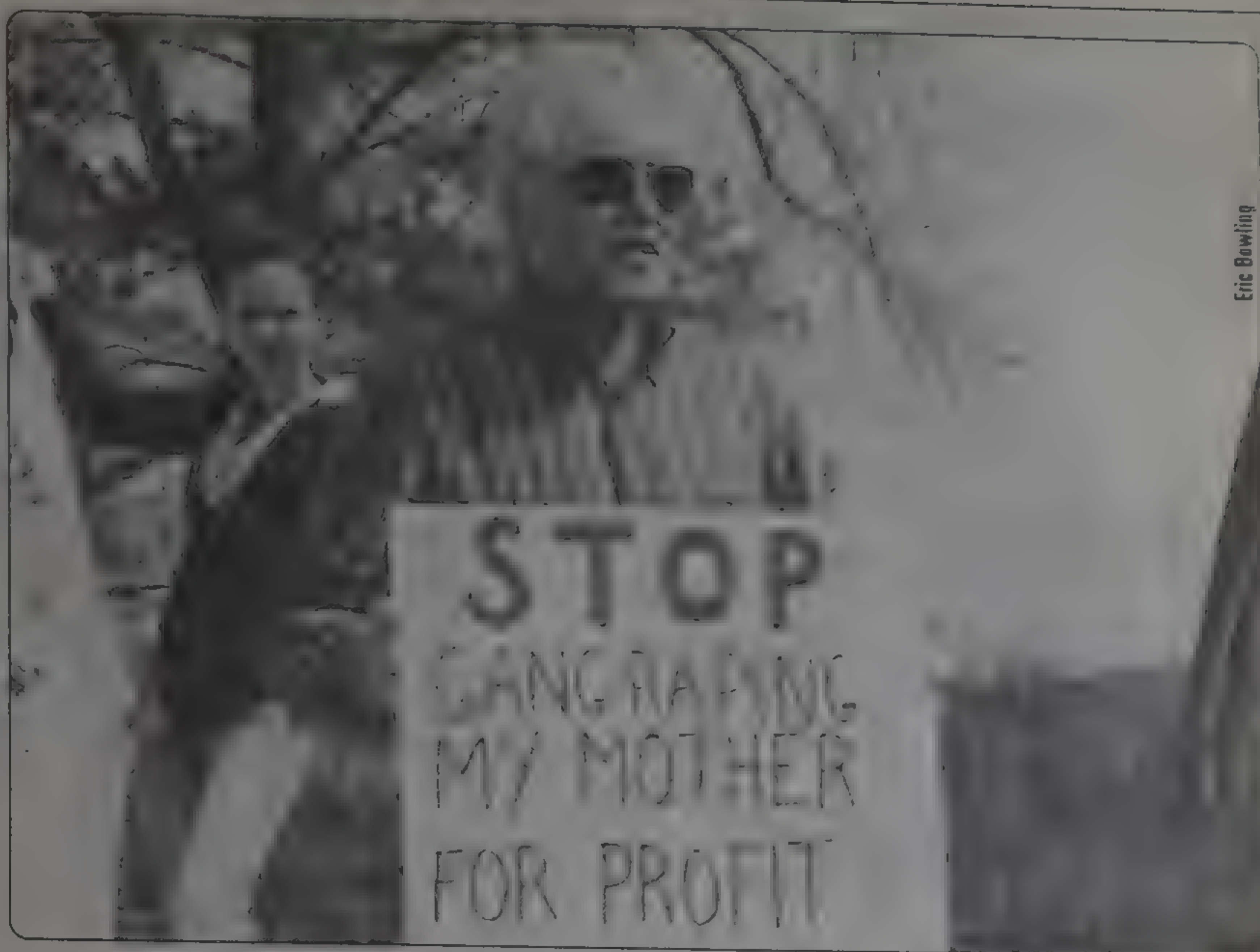
Why does the traffic circle at 118th Ave and 142nd St have stop lights? When the debate over whether Edmonton should shut-can its traffic circles rears its head every couple of years I have always found myself onside with keeping them, if only because they're a seemingly unique anomaly, but the stop lights at that "traffic circle" really cut into any case you could make as to their effectiveness. I mean if traffic circles are safe, why would they need lights? BB

#### BESTEST WASTE OF PAPER

Metro has got to have the lowest pick-up-to-issues-printed ratio of any publication in the world. Rather than just dumping bundles at every storefront, office and bus stop that doesn't explicitly tell you not to, why don't you just cut out the middle man and put them straight into the recycling bin? And speaking of cutting out middle men

#### BESTEST PROTEST SIGN

I know that it can be difficult in our saturated media culture for protesters to break through the background chatter to get their message out, but it seems like this sign could have been given a bit more thought. It helps a little if you know that it was at a demonstration about the 500 ducks who died on a Syncrude tailings pond, and that the mother he's referring to is Mother Earth ... at least I desperately, desperately hope that's what's going on here ... SH



Eric Bowling

(and women), how about letting those poor, green-aproned paper-panhandlers look for gainful employment? DB

#### BESTEST PLACE TO GET IN SHAPE WHILE CREEPING ON HOT BODIES

The river valley stairs between the Royal Glenora and the bottom of 110 St

are a great place to get in shape and check out some hard-bodied eye candy. Don't be intimidated, people of all shapes and sizes heave their bodies up and down the stairs throughout the day. I just find the female hot bodies motivating and the male hot bodies appetizing. While taking a well-deserved rest at

the top you can people watch those hiking the stairs and all the people working out and playing frisbee in Ezio Farone Park. All for free! SHn

#### BESTEST PLACE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

OK, there is no one best place to volunteer in Edmonton. Like art? Consider

er volunteering at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Enjoy animals? Why not give the Edmonton Humane Society a call. Like to work with people? Contact Habitat for Humanity. There are so many opportunities to make a difference; volunteerism in the city even has its own website: [volunteeredmonton.com](http://volunteeredmonton.com). EJ

#### BESTEST SIGN SWITCHING

Uh, really, does anything more need to be said? TKj



#### BESTEST WAY TO SPEND AN ALL-NIGHTER

Take in one of the many a-thons that local artist/activist/bearded wildman Tim Rechner has taken to putting on. The Draw-a-thon has always been 12 hours of good times, but it was probably eclipsed by the slightly more democratic Collage-a-thon, which was basically kindergarten arts and crafts with alcohol. One can only assume that the upcoming Cinemathon will be just as fun, if slightly more time-consuming. DB

#### BESTEST WAY TO TELL IF SOMEONE IS FROM "AROUND THESE PARTS"

If you want to know whether your new friend was raised in Alberta, tell them to "git 'er done." If they're new here, they'll probably look at you like you're crazy. Or they'll pause briefly, waiting for you to admit you're trying to be ironic. Say it to someone who was born here though and they'll either roll their eyes at you or immediately order you to "pound it." BB

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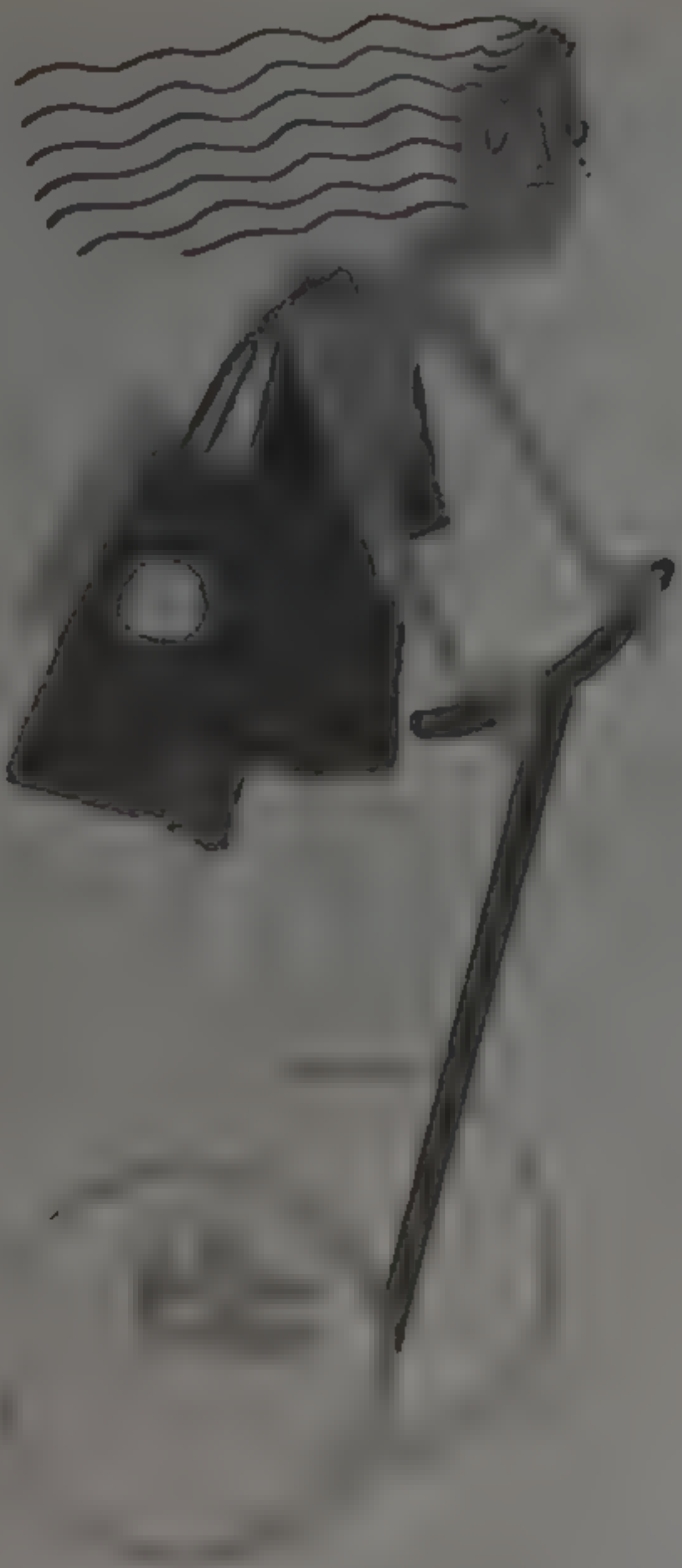
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**BESTEST PLACE TO SEE SOME REALLY, REALLY OLD PALM TREES**

No, it's not the Muttart Conservatory (though that's also awesome in a distinctly pointy kind of way). No, I'm talking about the Alberta Legislature. Strangely enough, way up in the dome of the building, there are five palm trees that are nearly 80 years old. Planted in 1932, the seeds from which the trees were grown are rumored to have been a gift from the State of California. There are lots of other interesting things at the Legislature too: portraits with moving eyes; an acoustic anomaly known as the "magic spot"; Premier Stelmach's eerie lack of human emotion; and much more! But don't take my word for it, check these things out for yourself by taking one of the many (free) Legislature tours that are offered several times a day. BS





#### BESTEST WAY TO GET AROUND A MALL

Walking is so passé. Why not try scooting through West Edmonton Mall on a two-wheeled, self-balancing transportation device: the awe-inspiring Segway! It is definitely the newest and best way to get around the ginormous mall in five minutes flat. With no traditional throttle or brakes, the Segway just follows the movement of your body. Whether you try the 1.5-hour tour through the mall or simply want a taste of Segway action around a track, it's a hot way see the sites. EM

#### THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

#### BESTEST MALL TO TAKE YOUR KIDS TO BESIDES WEST ED

West Edmonton Mall may have an amusement park, a waterpark and a movie theatre but Millwoods Town Centre has a playground and Wii (at least, there was Wii the last time I was there). The Edmonton Public Library branch located at this mall also has some cool programs you won't find in any other library branch in the city such as World Language Storytime where children and parents can come to the library over the next few summer months and learn some basic words in Punjabi, Spanish, Hindi & Urdu, Korean, French, Arabic, Chinese and Tagalog through fairy tales and nursery rhymes by having the stories read to them in both English and the foreign language. KD

#### WORSTEST MOVE

I'm glad the fine people at Nokomis have found a much more expansive place to ply their wonderful clothing, but did they have to leave the old storefront beside Café Mosaics? Spreading out all the impossibly cute, effortlessly fashionable vegetarian girls only makes them harder to find. Think maybe you could get together with the record stores, Bacon and Gravity Pope and build some kind of cute hipster shopping complex downtown? There's an empty building conveniently located right across the street from our offices ... DB

#### BESTEST PLACE TO GO AND EAT THE MORNING AFTER AN ALCOHOL-FUELED FRIDAY NIGHT

Without a doubt, the Old Strathcona Farmer's Market is the place to go for a delicious brunch after you wake up Saturday afternoon feeling sore, grumpy and hungry. The Market

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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## THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

becomes an even more convenient option when you find yourself waking with a headache and an empty stomach of hobo after passing out underneath the twirly slide of a nearby playground. **BS**

### BESTEST NEW FAST FOOD FRIEND

Normally it's best to avoid the stuff, of course, but for those times when you have no choice but to eat quick, it's nice to see so many burrito places popping up. Considerably less greasy than the donair, considerably more versatile than the hot dog and considerably more healthy than the hamburger (it's got all those vegetables and stuff, right? At least some guacamole and salsa, anyway), the burrito is the ideal quick lunch or late night drunk food. Find them at any number of recently popped-up fast food joints, or at the downtown Farmer's Market on Saturdays. **DB**

### BESTEST PUBLIC ART TREND

While Edmonton isn't going to be confused with the likes of Mexico City anytime soon, the number of murals popping up recently on the walls of the city is a welcome change from both the stark concrete grey and public art that has too long been dominated by tacky corporate offerings like painted bison. A touch of Diego Rivera is just what a visually bland city needs. **SH**



### BESTEST MOVIE DRINK

The peach juice available at the Garneau and Princess can even make going to watch turgid, back-patting,

overly nostalgic Bob Dylan biopics palatable. If you're there for one of the good movies they show, it's a cup of artificial-syrup heaven. **DB**

### BESTEST REASON TO BRAG ABOUT OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM

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**BESTEST DAYCARE TO SEND YOUR KIDS TO IF THEY'RE NAMED KOBE OR LEBRON**

Okay, I'm no expert, but it seems to me that sending your kids to a daycare that's sponsored by Powerade may not be the best way to deal with little Timmy's hyperactivity. And that teddy bear that looks like it just stuck his paw in an electrical socket is kinda creepy to boot. **SH**

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LAURIE



### BESTEST PLACE TO MEET A CUTE PERSONAL TRAINER

Hang out at the top of the 105 St hill: every exercise class in the city chugs their slowly slimming asses up and down that thing at least once a week. You'll have plenty of time to try to get a phone number while the trainer that strikes your fancy runs in place waiting for his/her more rotund clients to max their envelope and actually crest the damn thing. DB



have is unheard of in other province, or in the United States. KD

### BESTEST GREEN-FRIENDLY/NON-FOSSIL FUEL-RELATED NAME FOR THE NEXT EDMONTON SPORTS TEAM (THAT ALSO SOUNDS VAGUELY SEXUAL)

Edmonton Blue Baggers. BG

### WORSTEST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DECISION

Getting rid of the trolley buses is only going to hurt us in the long run. Yes, I know that, for now, coal is no better than gas for CO2 emissions. But once we tear all that down, we're not going to build it back up again, and we'll be kicking ourselves when wind or water or solar power starts feeding our grid and diesel is double what it is now. Shortsightedness is the stock-in-trade of the politician, though. DB

### BESTEST THING ABOUT ALL THE CONSTRUCTION AROUND TOWN

The future. People are always talking

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

countries are visiting and studying how we teach languages so that they can get tips on how to kickoff their own programs. The Chinese govern-

ment, for instance, was so impressed with Chinese Mandarin instruction in the city that they've signed an agreement with Edmonton school district

officials to set up a Confucius Institute here to help promote and teach Chinese Mandarin. Students can get international certification for their

knowledge of French, Mandarin, German, Japanese and Spanish. The kind of extensive second language and culture programs that Edmonton schools

## Survey said ...

We asked you to give us your thoughts on the things that make Edmonton the bestest. Here's what you told us ...

### EDMONTON'S CLAIM TO FAME

- 1) The river valley and Edmonton's vast system of trails
- 2) The fact that you can get paid \$15 dollars an hour to work at a fast food restaurant

### EDMONTON'S CLAIM TO SHAME

- 1) Homeless people
- 2) The public transit system ... nuff said

### EDMONTON'S PATRON SAINT

- 1) Michael Phair
- 2) Lois Hole

### YEAR'S WORSTEST POLITICAL MOVE

- 1) Union-funded "Albertans for Change" ads attacking Stelmach
- 2) Re-electing the PC government

### YEAR'S WORSTEST MEDIA BLUNDER

- 1) 500 ducks dying in a Syncrude tailings lake
- 2) The "Albertans for Change" ads

### BESTEST SECRET GEM

- 1) The restaurant Bacon ("Thinking about it makes me drool")
- 2) The secret stairs at the university, aka the cwok village

### BESTEST LOCAL ISSUE

- 1) The affordable housing crisis
- 2) Urban sprawl

### BESTEST TAX DOLLARS IN ACTION

- 1) LRT extension
- 2) Extending the LRT

### BESTEST RIGHTY POLITICIAN

- 1) Really? There is no such thing, is there?
- 2) No such thing

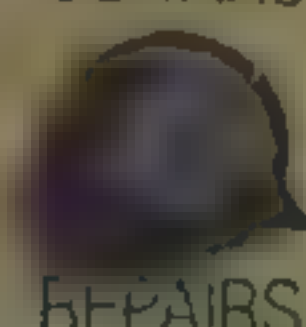
### BESTEST LEFTY POLITICIAN

- 1) Don Iveson
- 2) Brian Mason

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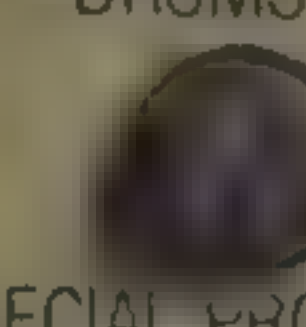
GUITARS



REPAIRS



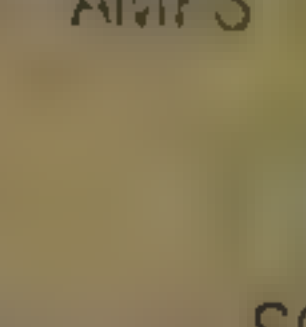
DRUMS



SPECIAL PROGRAMS



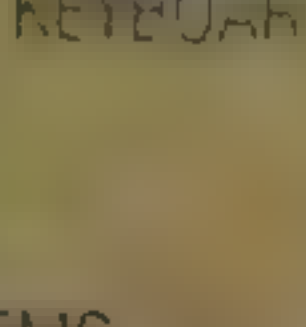
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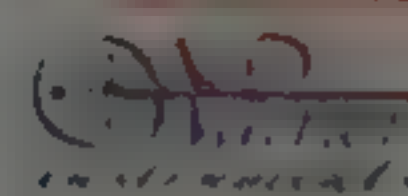
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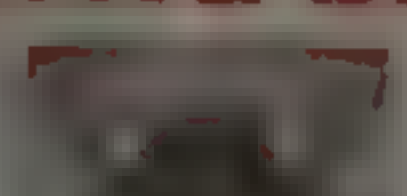
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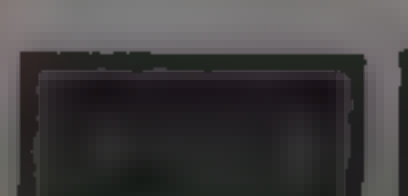
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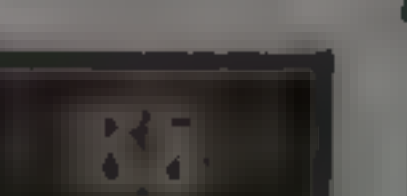
Vintage



Sire



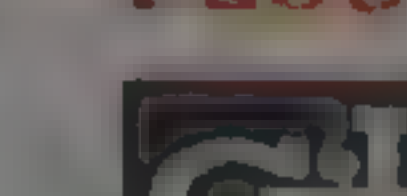
Fender



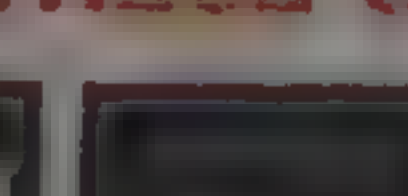
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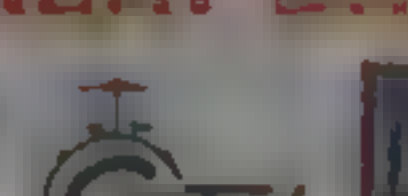
Ford



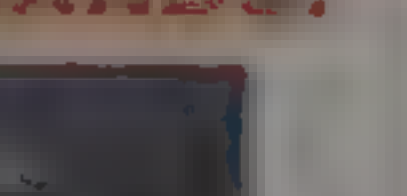
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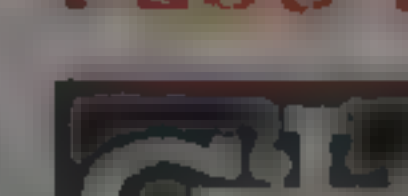


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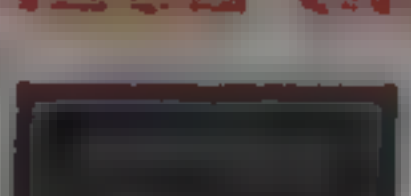


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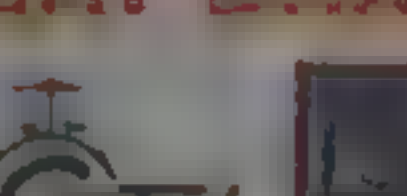
### PLUS THESE GREAT BRANDS!



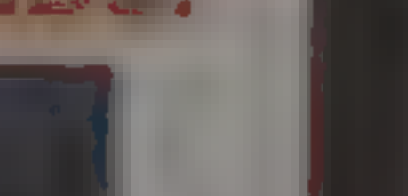
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## THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

Continued from page 37

about the potential of Edmonton and honestly, there are times when it's hard to see the city that they're talking about. A city where talented artists stay here and make it big. A city that's as renowned for its culture and festivals as for its cowboys and giant mall. However, it's easy to see the progress that's being made towards that ideal. Imagine our city with the LRT actually reaching the south side, with 111 St open again. It's gonna be great. Believe. BR

### BESTEST TIME OF YEAR TO BE OUTSIDE

That would be right now. Sandwiched somewhere between the mud-covered melting period of March and early April and the scorching sun-tanning sessions of July, there's a too-short period where Edmonton is greener than David Suzuki. It's almost embarrassing, really. Edmonton is supposed to be sweaty, stinking and hot or stuck in the deep freeze, right? But for 20-odd days, the city looks like it's been transported to the coast of Oregon or southern England. It's awesome. LK

### BESTEST PART OF LEAVING EDMONTON

Coming back. There is something in the air (or should I say the dust) that makes Edmonton almost impossible to enjoy for prolonged periods but yet makes it easy to miss when away for more than a week. "Really?" the friends you are staying with yell. Maybe it's the way that we clump together to form communities that then clump again, or maybe it's the sensitive machismo that waifs through the air or maybe it's the "lets put on a show and make a difference" mentality that permeates everything from our theatre, human rights organizations, musicians and indie-shops. Whatever it is, it is what makes a city. TK

### BESTEST PLACE TO LOSE YOUR SHIRT

No, it's not at one of the local casinos. Try exposing your pecs at Rundle Park

### BESTEST UNDERAPPRECIATED TOURIST ATTRACTION

The Royal Alberta Museum. I'm a sucker for museums and I blame it on the lack of promotion to explain why I've never taken a tour in there. Recently, though, the RAM happened to be the venue of an event I had to be at. The scenery upon entering the building was just stunning. Stepping onto the museum's premises is like discovering a well-kept secret. Despite not getting the recognition (and in all likelihood, funding) that it deserves, the museum has one of the nicest gardens in the city. The rest of Edmonton should be taking note. While I wasn't able to take a tour of the place when I was there, the displays by the entrance (like a Korean exhibit where displays of clothing, a large boat, rice bowls and cell phones—yes, cell phones) were enough to make me want to come back and check it out. I later went to the museum's website and they've got exhibits on dragons and recoveries made from the sinking Empress of Ireland to name a few. KD



while enjoying a round of disc golf. The city plans to upgrade the eighteen-hole course over the next few years to address the need for some rehabilitation. Not into it? Rent a paddle boat, play a round of miniature golf or play some tennis, but for God's sake, do it with your shirt off (some exceptions may apply). EJ

### BESTEST BUS ROUTE

Totally the 7, the only bus route awesome enough to have its own pennant. One of a few that makes the downtown-Whyte Ave trip direct and painless, it also rolls past a number of the city's urban gems. Take it out to Belgravia and hit up a student house party, mosey on down 107 Ave for some food from the African diaspora, head further out to 124 St to catch a show at the Roxy, enjoy the ride as you roll through

the traffic circle on 142 St or just take it all the way out to Jasper Place and peruse the city's best pawn shops. BB

### BESTEST HOSPITAL DESIGN

The atrium at the Royal Alexandra Hospital looks a lot like HUB Mall at the University except grander. While I usually find hospital settings rather dreary, the large glass windows at the Royal Alex with its glass arch ceilings allow as much sunlight as possible to enter the building. The streetlamps give the hospital a lovely metropolitan look while the grand piano and lounge chairs would make anyone feel like they're chilling in a hotel lobby rather than in a hospital. And as much as porcelain dolls creep me out, the display of dolls dressed up as nurses in the atrium gives the hospital character and a sense of history. KD

### BESTEST PLACE TO GET LOST

Sure, there are enough one-way streets in around the University to get the newcomer arrested, killed or both. And assorted suburbs are riddled with cul-de-sacs and the navigator's worst enemy, named streets. But only one area, to my knowledge, combines both. That would be New Beverly, where streets run north-south until they change into avenues without warning. At least a scenic view of the river valley presents itself when you inevitably lose your sense of direction, even if the postcard is spoiled by Refinery Row rearing its ugly head on the opposite bank. LK

### BESTEST COMMUNITY PARK

In the winter, it offers ice skating, hot chocolate and the best damn tobogganing in the city. In the summer,

there's a water park, tons of organized (and unorganized) sports and a summertime parties that are off-the-hook. If you haven't already guessed it, I'm talking about Millwoods Park. BS

### BESTEST SATURDAY MORNING EXCURSION

A short drive to St Albert on a Saturday morning and you can find yourself at the largest farmer's market in western Canada. Located in St Albert's downtown area (don't blink or you might miss it), over 200 vendors cram into the streets to produce a frenzy of activity filled with great produce, crafts, flowers and tasty treats. Open every Saturday 10 am - 3 pm rain or shine until Sep 29. Great food, great people and a great Saturday morning outing within the greater city limits. SHn

EXTRAORDINARY ON PAGE 37

### BESTEST WAY TO GET FROM DOWNTOWN TO WHYTE AVE

No offense ETS, but your piddly little bridge across the North Saskatchewan has got nothing on the majestic views afforded by the trolley on the top of the High Level. And the thing picks you up from 109 St and drops you off in the centre of Whyte Ave, not way the hell and gone to the west of all the action. Somebody should convince the city to fund that thing and have it run all night. BB





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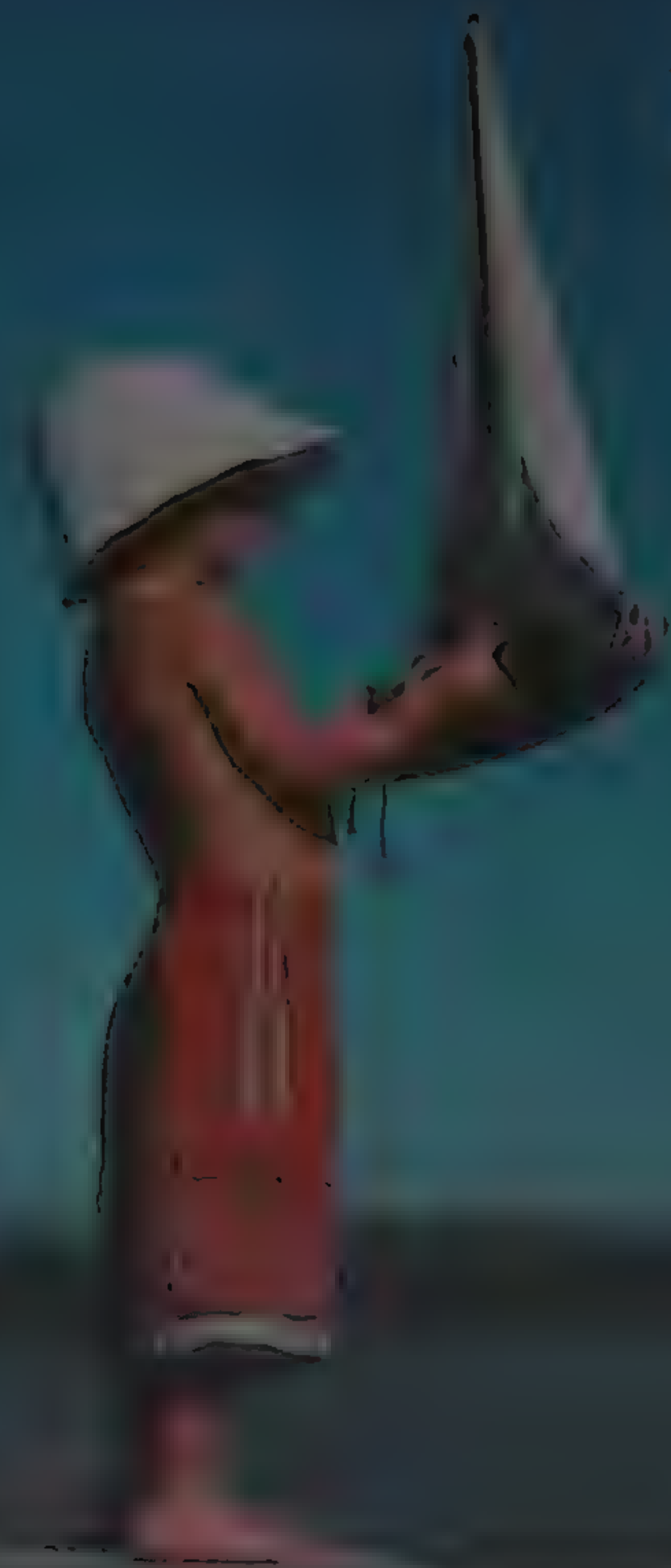
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# Village of Wabamun

"The Village on the Lake"

The picturesque Village of Wabamun is located on the north shore of Lake Wabamun, approximately 20 km from the Highway 101 and Highway 630 and west of the City of Edmonton.



## Wabamun Fun Daze



This fun family weekend has something for everyone. Join us on Friday, June 20 for face painting, balloon artistry, entertainment, and a fireworks display. On Saturday, June 21 the day starts off with a pancake breakfast followed by a parade, children's activities in the Lions Park and much more!

## Wabamun & District Museum Society

Opening Summer 2008!



Location: Old Wabamun United Church  
5110 - 52 Avenue



The Wabamun & District Museum Society has been established to preserve, for public benefit, the natural, historical, industrial and cultural heritage of the Village of Wabamun and communities surrounding Wabamun Lake, from the early 1800's to the present.

## Wabamun Water Spray Park



Also opening this summer is the Wabamun Water Spray Park located in the Wabamun Waterfront Park. The nautically themed water spray park, located beside the lake will be a fun place for the family to spend the day.



WABAMUN

Phone: (780) 892-2699

Email: [admin@wabamun.ca](mailto:admin@wabamun.ca)

Website: [www.wabamun.ca](http://www.wabamun.ca)



WABAMUN





#### BESTEST INDICATION THAT YOUR SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN HASN'T QUITE WORKED

If I ever get my hands on the scamps who messed with my "Respect the Neighbourhood" signs I'll ... SH

#### THE BESTEST OF EDMONTON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

#### BESTEST PLACE TO GET SOME ZEN

Ditch the Chai Tea and head to the Kurimoto Japanese Garden at the Devonian Botanical Garden for a true Zen-like experience. This hidden gem features manicured trees, serene water and tranquil meditation spots. Thirty minutes south of Edmonton on Highway 60, the Devonian Gardens is open at 10 am daily. EJ

#### BESTEST NEW SPORTS TEAM

For a town supposedly obsessed with hockey and football, Edmonton has long had a surprisingly strong basketball community. The U of A's basketball teams are almost always contenders for the national title, and no fewer than four local colleges field men and women's ACAC teams. On any given weekend during the school year, there's some good quality ball being played somewhere in the city. And now, thanks to the Edmonton Chill, there's pro-level basketball to enjoy during the summer. An NBA franchise it ain't, but with tickets going for \$10 and a team roster full of local talent, it's about as much as a hoops fan could hope for in a city where most people bleed Oil. LK

#### BESTEST LOCAL SPORTS TEAM TO BUCK OUR REPUTATION AS METAPHORS FOR SPECIES EXTINCTION AND THE CLIMATE CATASTROPHE

Edmonton isn't renowned for having sports teams with the most environmentally friendly names. Oilers. Drillers. Oil Kings. Cracker-Cats (trivia time: "cat cracking" refers to the process of Fluid Catalytic Cracking involved in refining crude oil into gasoline). But then along comes a pro basketball team with a polar bear—the poster animal for the impacts of climate change—for a mascot and a team name that offers good advice when it comes to the climate: Chill. You kind of have to cheer for the underdog in that group. Surely renaming the boys in copper and blue the Solars can't be too far behind. SH

#### BESTEST PLACE TO SEND YOUR SOUTHERN OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS DURING THE SUMMER

Forget about making the pilgrimage to the Mall. Send your "southern" visitors (ie, the majority of human civilization that lives in climates warmer than ours) to Mill Creek Pool, preferably sometime in mid-July when every Edmontonian native sincerely believes their skin

is going to melt off his or her body because the mercury has risen to—wait for it—28°C, before windchill is factored in. The spectacle of hundreds of scantily clad Edmontonians vying for a square of concrete amidst the gusting wind will incite a far greater cultural appreciation than the 15th largest mall on Earth (or wherever we're standing these days). JS

#### BESTEST PLACE TO SEND YOUR SOUTHERN OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS DURING THE WINTER

Because we like to feel like our climactic torture chamber puts hair on our chests or, at the least, renders us superhumanly immune to the cold, the best place for people who come from out of town (or preferably from out of country) to visit come winter-time is, uh, anywhere. Make them walk to the grocery store, to the bar or to the movie theatre. If they rent a car, ensure that they drive the roads that don't get ploughed. Point out that the best of us don't wear toques until it's 15 below. Cruise Whyte Ave on a Friday or Saturday night just to watch the women totter on heels through snowdrifts. Seriously, we have a reputation to maintain. Get the word out. JS

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WEDNESDAY JULY 9<sup>th</sup>

## An Evening With THE FIVE POINTS QUINTET

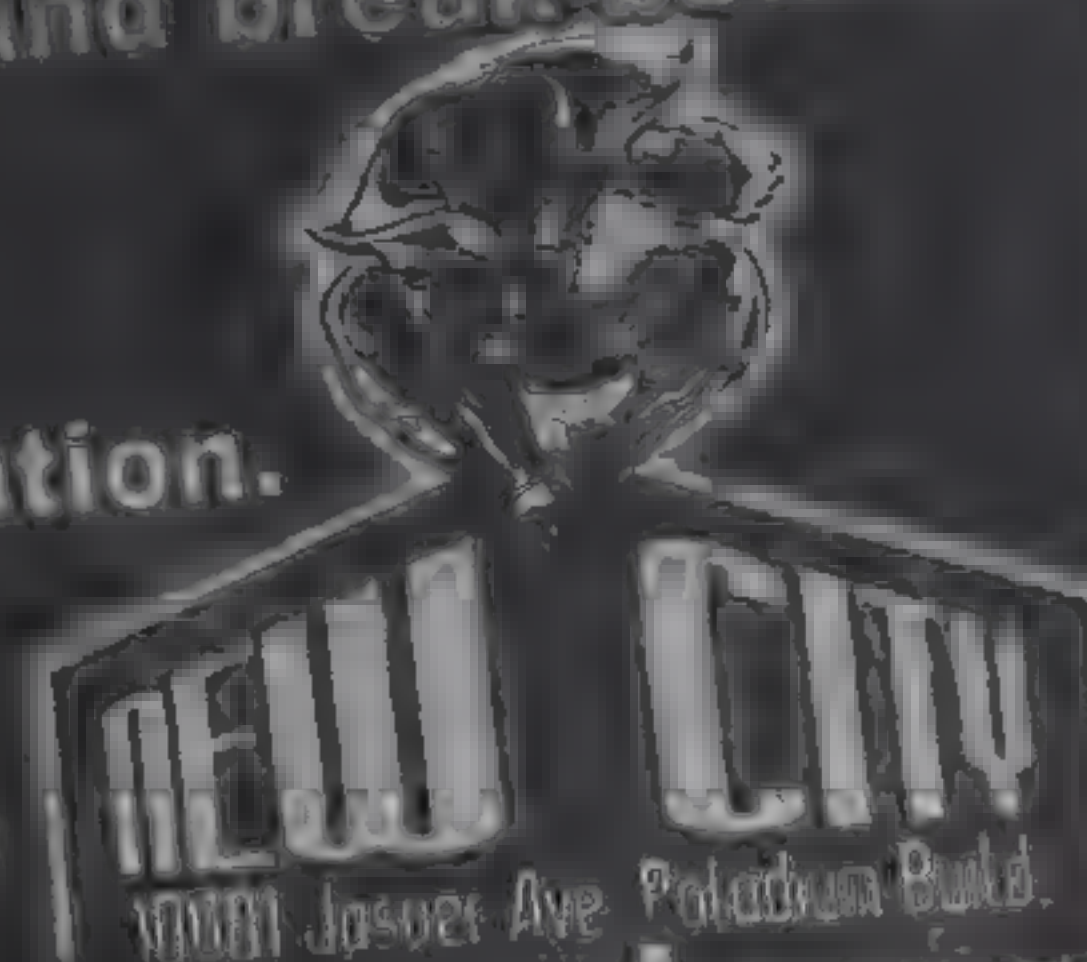
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**NewCityCompound.com**





If you are only familiar with HIV Edmonton as it looked 22 years ago, you might not recognize us today. Our organization, once run entirely by devoted volunteers, is now led by core staff supported by passionate volunteers, members, partners, sponsors, and donors.

Our focus, while still primarily on our local community and clients, has evolved to encompass the provincial and national AIDS movements, bringing the strength of numbers to the fight against HIV/AIDS here in Edmonton, throughout Alberta, and across the nation.

The services we provide have grown exponentially over the past two decades. This past year, we have ushered in new services designed to meet the needs of our clients

and of your community. We've also added ways of providing those services so we can serve our clients where they want and need to be served.

But you know the old saying: the more things change, the more they stay the same. At HIV Edmonton, some things will never change—like the passion and commitment behind everything we do.

Whether raising funds to support our enhanced programs and services, establishing new partnerships and connections, or conducting needs assessments, our staff, board, and volunteers exhibit the kind of energy that results in lasting change for your community.

**Our goals also remain the same. We are committed to**

- helping those at risk of, infected with, or affected by HIV/AIDS;
- collaborating with other organizations working in the field to increase our ability to make a difference; and
- ensuring everyone, from today's policy makers to the youth who will become tomorrow's decision makers, has accurate, appropriate information so they can protect themselves and others.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2007/08

This year marked the first year of following our new, 2007–2010 strategic plan. The plan provides direction so we can create a solid foundation that will allow us to meet the increasing demands of this region's rapidly growing population.

We've worked hard to strengthen our infrastructure, focusing on developing our organization, creating new partnerships to increase capacity, diversifying funding sources, educating our community, and growing our volunteer base.

## TEACHING OUT

We have grown our Support and Outreach programs so we can help those who need it, when they need it and where they need it. With volunteer support, our amazing staff reach out to clients and their families in the office, over the telephone, and off-site.

You'll find us in many places in the community. For example, we're delivering services at HAART House, accompanying anxious people to medical appointments, and holding drop-ins and talking circles in our offices.

You can learn more about the services we provide by reading our 2007/08 Annual Report, available on our website.

## EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE

Thanks to local, national, and international research, knowledge about HIV/AIDS has increased dramatically over the past two decades. This year, we've continued to use the latest research to create valuable educational workshops and programs so we can provide the facts about HIV/AIDS to everyone in our community, including clients, service providers, educators, parents, and youth.

Through our Community Education programs, we are reducing the stigma and discrimination that prevent people living with HIV/AIDS from getting the help they so desperately need.

We're also providing people like you and your children with the information you require to prevent further transmission of HIV and protect your health.

Two workshops were given to 17 groups of adults in our community last year: "HIV—The Basics" and "Dynamics of HIV."

Our Triple Threat Youth Peer Education Project continued to make a difference in the lives of our youth. Through this program, in which youth educate youth, we were able to help at-risk young people protect themselves and others.

Are Edmonton's youth learning anything? You can find out in our 2007/08 Annual Report.

## EXTENDING OUR REACH

We received some good news in early 2008. The Alberta Community HIV Fund announced that it will provide funding to HIV Edmonton for the provision of services in two additional health regions: East Central Health Region and Aspen Health Region.

These regions have not been adequately serviced in the past and our initial work indicates that there are a number of important ways we can help. We invite you to learn more about our plans for meeting the needs of these communities in our 2007/08 Annual Report.

## THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

The past year has been one of transition. We are now poised for growth, with a stable infrastructure, experienced leadership, and devoted staff. But we could not have done it without you, Edmonton.

Our volunteers, sponsors, donors, members and partners invested their time, money, and hearts to help make this past year a success. Because of them, we were able to achieve our goals and can confidently set new, more ambitious, objectives for 2008–2009. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has opened their arms and their hearts to assist us, and those we serve.

**Your donation today will make a difference! Please visit our website at [www.hivedmonton.com](http://www.hivedmonton.com) or call 780-488-5742 to learn more about our work in 2007–2008 and discover how you can help us meet the challenges of 2008–2009.**

## HIV EDMONTON BY NUMBERS

How important is HIV Edmonton to your community? The numbers tell the story. Here's a snapshot of our work in 2007–2008:

2,473	Individuals receiving services	200	Community groups	2,009	Hours of service	284	Community events	387	Hours of service at Armstrong Program
112	Community groups	300	Hours of service	700	Hours of service	37	Community events	133	Hours of service
1,275	Hours of service	244	Hours of service	21	Hours of service	197,521	Hours of service		



# Scotiabank AIDS WALK FOR LIFE

The Walk will do us good.

## SCOTIABANK AIDS WALK FOR LIFE: "ALBERTA THROWDOWN" TAKES PLACE SEPTEMBER 21ST

HIV Edmonton is hosting their 17th Annual Aids Walk for Life fundraiser on September 21, 2008.

New for 2008, the agency has entered into a friendly competition with their sister organization, AIDS Calgary. The agency that raises the most amount of money will not only carry the title of 'conqueror', but they are also negotiating on a list of embarrassing and ego altering deeds for the loser to carry out.

Executive Director, Debra Jakubec, stated, "I am very excited about this challenge. The "Alberta Throwdown" not only describes the ongoing rivalry between our two cities, but it also describes our combined efforts - our all out fight- against HIV and AIDS in Alberta! Besides that, Edmontonians are proud individuals and I'm sure they won't let Calgary disgrace us."

**To beat Calgary, HIV Edmonton has set a goal of \$120,000 in pledges, raised through 500 participants.**

Last year's event raised \$87,000 with nearly 250 participants. Ms. Jakubec believes the key to last year's success, and quite possibly to winning this year's challenge, was team participation. "Nearly two thirds of our participants last year came out as part of a team. They were having so much fun. Some were wearing costumes and others were carrying banners or simply wearing their company clothing."

Jakubec noted the walk is a great way for business, community groups or sports teams to gain some public attention, strengthen team relationships between employees or members, and build new networks. Some of the lively and entertaining teams at past Walks have included Generation Gap, M-A-C Cosmetics, Feets Don't Fail Me Now, The Traveling Tickle Trunk, Magic Lantern Cinema, Arctic Frontrunners and Team Gilead Alberta.

Individual walkers are also encouraged to participate. There are incentive prizes for those who reach certain pledge levels, as well as prizes for an assortment of categories:

**Top Early Bird** - awarded to the walker who raises the most amount of money prior to September 1, 2008.

**Top Walker** - awarded to the individual who raises the most money.

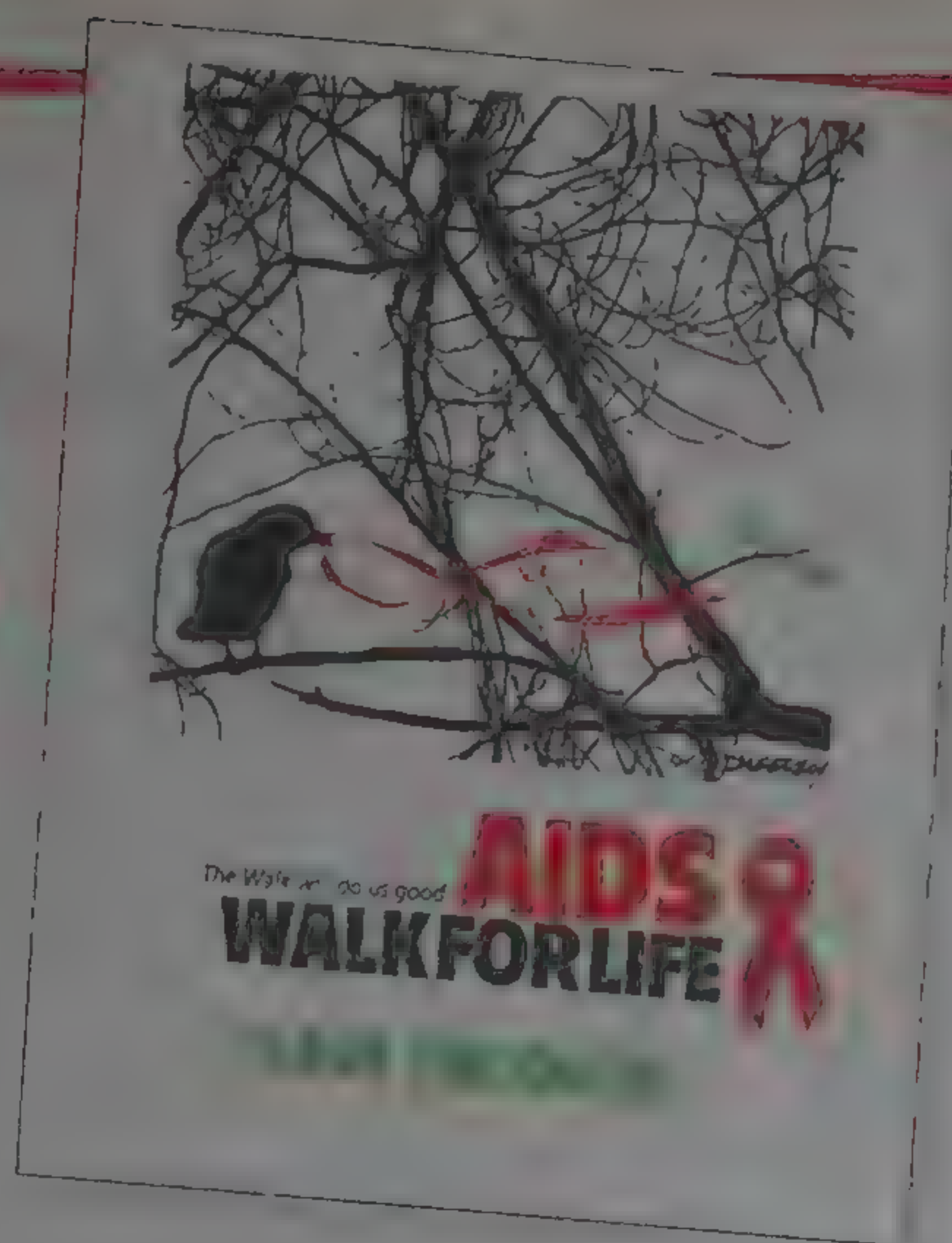
**Top Child** - awarded to the child aged 5-12 who raises the most money.

**Top Youth** - awarded to the youth aged 13-17 who raises the most money.

**Top Corporate Team** - awarded to the corporate team who raises the most money.

**Top Non Corporate team** - awarded to the non-profit team who raises the most money.

**Top Dog** - awarded to the dog that raises the most money.



Scotiabank has also stepped up as the national title sponsor, branding the event, Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life.

"The Scotiabank AIDS Walk for Life is an important event for all Canadians," said Rick Waugh, Scotiabank President and CEO. "AIDS and HIV do not discriminate. Men, women, youth, and children across this country in the communities where we live and work face the realities of this unforgiving disease every day. We are proud to support an event that provides important funding to fight AIDS and raises awareness about prevention of HIV."

During the week of September 14 -21, more than 50 walk events will be held in communities all across Canada. The Canadian Aids Society (CAS) is also offering a national incentive to all participating agencies. The Top 10 walk events will receive an additional financial benefit based on how they rank within the top 10. HIV Edmonton needs your help to raise \$120K in pledges and obtain a top three rank.

All funds raised from the event stay here in Alberta and are used for HIV and AIDS prevention, education, support and outreach programs.

The face of HIV and AIDS has changed since HIV Edmonton first responded to the emerging AIDS crisis within our community in 1984. Today, women are two to four times more vulnerable to HIV infection, youth have one of the fastest rising infections rates, and Aboriginal people are five times more likely to have HIV than any other Canadian.

HIV Edmonton gratefully acknowledges Scotiabank and all of the national sponsors who help increase awareness of the Walk and contribute to its success through their support. HIV Edmonton is now actively recruiting local and provincial sponsors to be involved in this exciting event.

To register or for more information on how to get involved, please call 780-488-5742 or visit [www.hivedmonton.com](http://www.hivedmonton.com).

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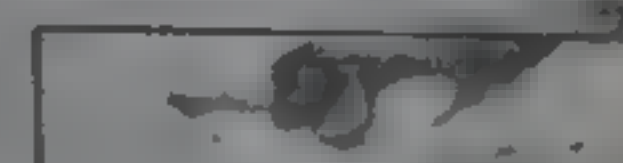
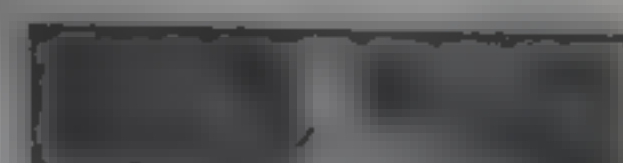
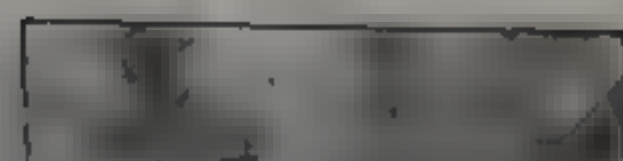


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# Beyond separation and unity, the simultaneous nation at AGA

MARY CHRISTA O'KEEFE / marychrista@vuwweekly.com

The history of the Americas isn't simple, and in our country, as elsewhere, the sins of colonialism endure, muddying the present with grievously uncorrected errors and injustices of the past. Academic sources estimate 90 per cent of some marginal populations were lost in the slaughter that followed waves of conquerors, corporate representatives and settlers sweeping across lands already known but seen through European eyes as "virgin." Some perished entirely; others, displaced from traditional homelands, usurped yet another people's territory.

Tragedy piled atop tragedy for four centuries on a scale that would've been apocalyptic to anyone not buffered by ignorance or ill-conceived self-righteousness. After the plagues subsided and displacements and genocides ebbed, there was further violence to endure: a strangling of culture, dignity and identity yet to abate.

How can a string of events so monstrous, almost to the point of incomprehensibility, ever be reconciled or atoned for? Indeed, there's been such a perilous erasure of collective memory, such a profound silencing and denial, how can we even say we know our history? If contemporary reading of art does nothing else, it posits a shared experience, a way to communicate that brings the personal, cultural, and aesthetic together to allow us to absorb difficult topics and intractable questions, and hopefully carry new knowledge into the everyday world when we return to it.



Scout / La Hupfield

perhaps explains his sympathy for the Aboriginals he captured in realistic yet expressive lines and rich colours. Grandmaison felt his mission was to document a "disappearing" culture—a romanticism that now seems presumptuous but another artifact, a Piegan ceremonial buckskin and headdress received along with an honoured designation, attests to a cordial reception by some of his subjects.

*Red Tile* connects to *Drawn From the Past* physically, if not literally. Viewers go from Grandmaison's monolithic worldview to a plurality of styles in works by prominent First Nations artists such as Jane Ash Poitras, Norval Morrisseau and Josh Kakeganic. The title alludes to Harold Cardinal's counter-paper to a 1969 government-produced document that recommended assimilating Aboriginals and revoking their special status, demolishing hopes for sovereignty or say in their destiny as a people. Cardinal's response invoked Canada's supposed "cultural mosaic," and suggested First Nations be a "red tile" in the landscape.

This is the merest sketch of the times—Canada was going through the same volatile period resonating around the world as overt colonialism collapsed, often violently, and self-governance and civil rights movements blossomed. Anti-progressive suppressed or neutered many of these stories over the past 40 years, and globally we're still paying the cost of our ignorance and their greedy reluctance to cede power.

## VIZ ARTS

UNTIL SUN, SEP 21  
**FACE THE NATION**  
WORKS BY CONTEMPORARY ABORIGINAL ARTISTS

UNTIL SUN, AUG 10  
**RED TILE**  
FIRST NATIONS ART IN THE LATE 20TH CENTURY  
**DRAWN FROM THE PAST**  
WORKS BY NICHOLAS DE GRANDMAISON  
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA (100, 10230 JASPER AVE)

**CURRENT AGA PROGRAMMING** contains three exhibitions claiming First Nations context: one featuring a self-made chronicler of Aboriginal people who brought his own history and assump-

tions to his practice; another attempting an elliptical overview, drawn from the AGA and U of Lethbridge collections, of important First Nations artists within the 20th century; and a third show celebrating a remarkable young generation of artists.

In *Drawn From the Past: the portraits and practice of Nicholas de Grandmaison*, curator Gordon Snyder assembles a survey of art and artifacts from a collection at the U of Lethbridge that includes trademark pieces and other works illustrative of technique or worldview and experience. Belongings like journals and sketchbooks, pairs of glasses and a

weather-beaten audio recording device (samples are digitized for the show; it's unfortunate a CD doesn't accompany the thorough catalogue) lend a museum feel, but its proximity to authentic First Nations voices in other shows elevates its complexity and relevance.

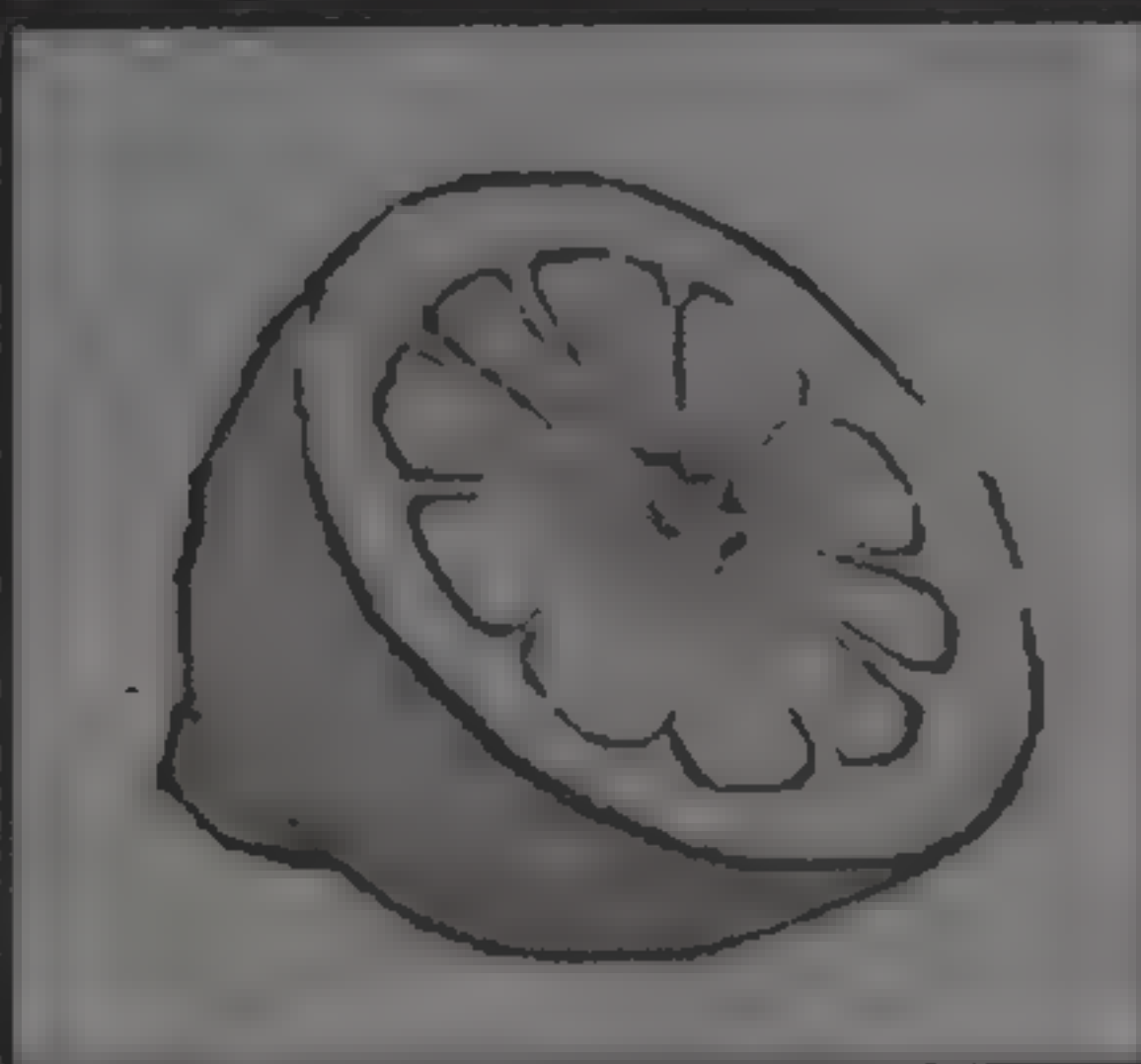
Grandmaison was touched by events of his time: his family fled the French Revolution, settling in Russia, where he was born in 1892. He was a WWI POW before the Bolshevik revolution made him a refugee. Re-emerging in Quebec, the dislocated Grandmaison pushed westward, eventually making Alberta home. His trajectory

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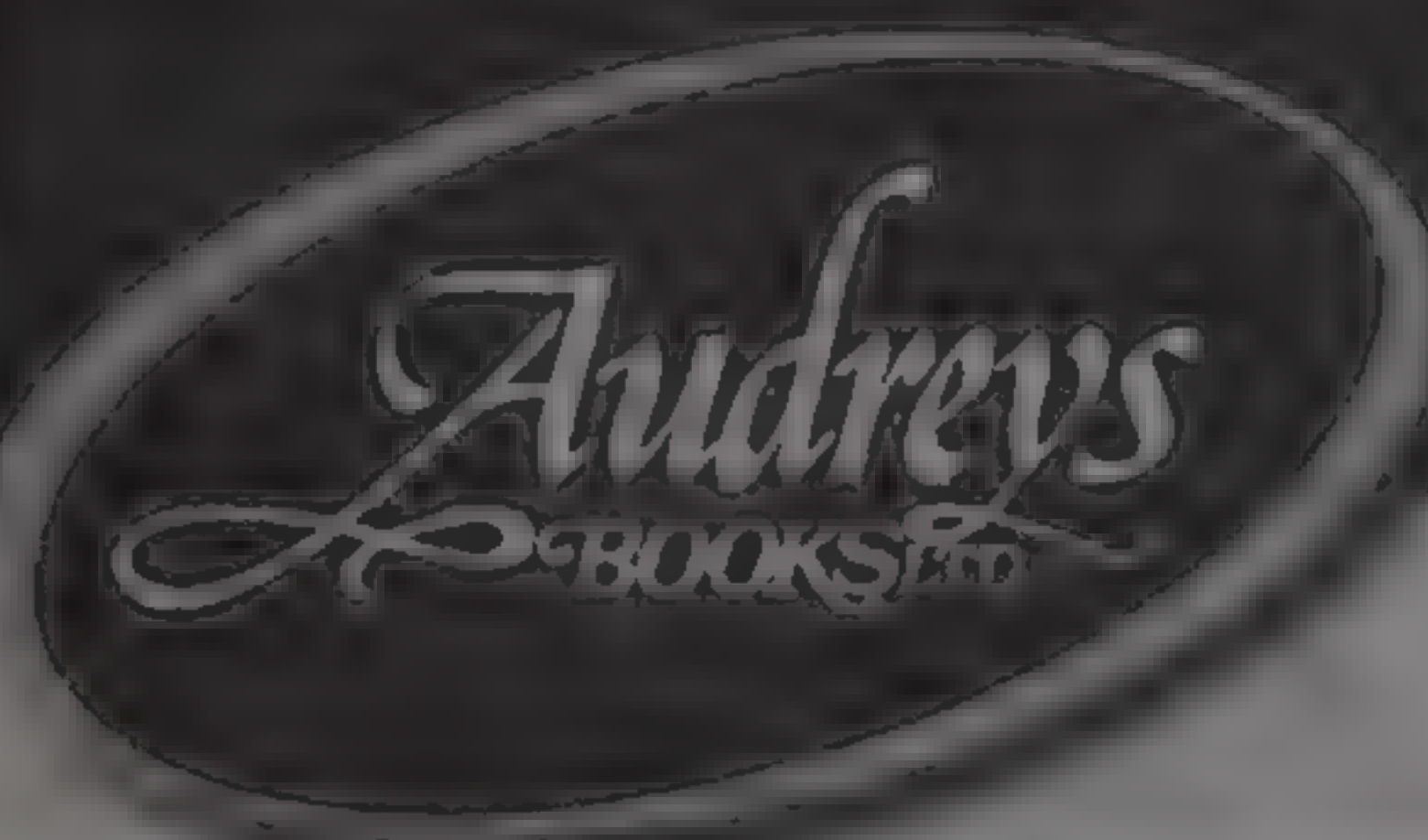
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# The elephant in the abstraction room

AMY FUNG / amy@vuweekly.com

The fundamental problem with viewpoints such as those in Amir Bar-Lev's documentary *My Kid Could Paint That* is the entire negation of the painter's path from process to product. The documentary, like so many byproducts and pop cultural jokes about the purported randomness of modernist abstraction, assumes that because it looks like a few drops of paint splashed and some unruly strokes of paint smeared, anybody or anything with limited motor skills can surely slap it together. Only, engaging in a conversation with their predecessors, the abstract expressionists were painters exhausted with the look, feel and temper of painting before them. They were also highly skilled painters formally and technically, obsessive with surpassing their own limitations and passionate in arguments with and amongst themselves. Preoccupied with the abilities of communicating within their medium, the movement of abstract expressionism resulted in soliciting the primal and the emotive—subjects that apparently remain plagued by those who seek its form and function.

Sixty years after the emergence of the abstract expressionist movement, its spectre has returned to become the predominant focus of **REAL**. Curated by Marcus Miller with the possible intention of linking abstract art back to the real lived-in world, the exhibition certainly provides samples of work that illustrate how the reality of the world can manifest into works of art. A sample of Maria Madack's latest meticulous—even if they are completely un-expressionist—are works pulled from a larger series contemplating the span of hands-on work over time as marked by the imperfect physical traces of rust and wear. Abstract in the technical sense, it is by the far the most interesting work in the exhibit.

**THE MOST CONTENTIOUS** work (and, not so coincidentally, the most hyped) is the collaboration between unlearn-



VIZ ARTS

UNTIL SUN, SEP 21  
**REAL**  
CURATED BY MARCUS MILLER  
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA (100, 10230 JASPER AVE)

ing painter Tim Rechner and Lucy, the captive painting elephant of the Valley Zoo. I cannot speculate on the thoughts and emotions running through Lucy, as I only know that she's the only elephant remaining in the zoo and has been living in captivity since 1977 after falling into a gem mine as a two-year-old. I can, however, speculate with confidence that Lucy simply has no artistic intentions, but just enjoys the act of what we call painting as it supplies some of the little movement and stimulus afforded her. With their sad eyes and the not entirely disqualified rendering of heightened sensitivity in Barbara

Gowdy's *The White Bone*, it is all too romantic to pair this melancholy creature with another and call their creative collaboration "art."

The work is real, and the idea of itself is worth reconsidering, but within the group show featuring real artists, the worth of Lucy's effort comes off more like a backhand slap. Her co-exhibitors and an all-too-brief excursion with this unwitting animal. The purpose of the exhibit seemingly implodes upon itself, playing up the skeptics' sentiments that surely kids and animals could paint these nonsensical prints for purchase. The worst part is that I feel for Lucy in the same way I felt for the little girl who just liked to paint sometimes for fun. Exploited for its creativity by an over-seeing product-driven mentality, the value of Lucy is the real elephant in the room. ▽

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# I like it just the way it is, actually



PAUL BLINOV / blinov@vancouverweekly.com

Though it's been happening in Edmonton for 20 years now, bringing the Bard out of stuffy theatres and into the open air of the Hawrelak park remains one of the best ways to take in a production of Shakespeare. It's not a unique idea (a quick Google search has the Freewill player's production coming up as the third Shakespeare in the park listed), but it's popular for a reason, as the open-air auditorium lets the Freewill Player's production of *As You Like It* encompass more than just the stage.

There's something strangely satisfying in seeing characters actually flee into the surrounding grassland, or catch people entering from beyond the wings of the auditorium, not the stage. Fresh air does wonders for the script, even with the

plete with girls carrying "round one" signs, a jeering onstage audience, and a slow-motion punch (completed by the slo-mo onstage roar of approval.)

The plot, much like with other Shakespearean comedies, begins with a handful of split ends that end up tightly woven into a single, all-encompassing thread: the love between Rosalind and Orlando is threatened by Frederick, who usurped the throne from his brother Senior, now exiled to a nearby forest. Orlando also takes up a forest residence after he wins a one-round duel for his inheritance from his brother, who plots against him. There's also some usual Shakespearean comedic moments, like cross-dressing, and a flurry of potential marriages. If all of that sounds confusing, don't worry: expert guidance from director Marianne Copithorne has the cast untangling the show's web of romance with ease.

**IN PARTICULAR,** Kevin Corey's scene-stealing role as comedian Jerry Touchstone is a punchline of its own: the physical comedy he puts his body through the ringer for is solid gold. He's just one gem in a star-studded bill that includes some of edmonton's finest acting talent. Paul Morgan Donald's musical flourishes received some well-deserved applause of their own, and the excellent Chris Bullough's humble role as the holy-love-lorn Silvius makes for a hilarious sideline love story.

The ensemble look like they're having the time of their lives, and that's what really makes this production of *As You Like It* feel so vivid: it's a lovely night out with the bard, presented by people having just as much fun putting it on. It's lengthy, clocking in at almost three hours, but that's how I like it: a full evening with a star-encrusted cast, dedicated to pumping some lively, fresh chuckles into classic Shakespeare. ▼

## REVUE

UNTIL SUN, JUL 20

### AS YOU LIKE IT

PART OF THE FREEWILL SHAKESPEARE FEST  
DIRECTED BY MARIANNE COPITHORNE  
STARRING CHRIS BULLOUGH, KEVIN COREY,  
PAUL MORGAN DONALD, ANNETTE LOISELLE  
HERITAGE AMPITHEATRE, HAWRELAK PARK  
\$15/\$20

uncontrollable weather—though for opening night of *As You Like It*, skies were clear, a sunny summer evening to match the glowing performance.

The production kicks off with a croon; Paul Morgan Donald does his best Sinatra to set up the 1950s-mafia-ish style of the show, and the stylish adaptation frames Shakespeare's iambic comedy well: it doesn't detract from the script, instead adding some splashy, fun touches. An early fight, for example, is recast as a boxing match, com-



## Mid-air panhandling: street performers return

PAUL BLINOV / blinov@vancouverweekly.com

It takes a special kind of person to fill the role of street performer. You have to drop the conventional lifestyle, travel for three-quarters of the year and remain unflinchingly eager to accept the pocket change of strangers as your main source of income. But Hamish McCann prefers the uncertain life of a busker to the nightmare-inducing ho-hum of a day job.

"I use to work in hospitality, managing cafés, and sometimes I have an anxiety dream: I find myself working in a café again, thinking, 'Where did it all go wrong?' and waking up in a cold sweat," he laughs. McCann is one half of The English Gents, an acrobatic duo who perform their incredible feats of human elasticity and balance while doing the most routine of British acts: having tea and reading the paper (and, he promises, a "cheeky" surprise ending). Along with fellow Aussie co-star Denis Lock, McCann is one of many busking acts set to descend upon the Edmonton's

## PREVIEW

FRI, JULY 4 - SUN, JUL 13

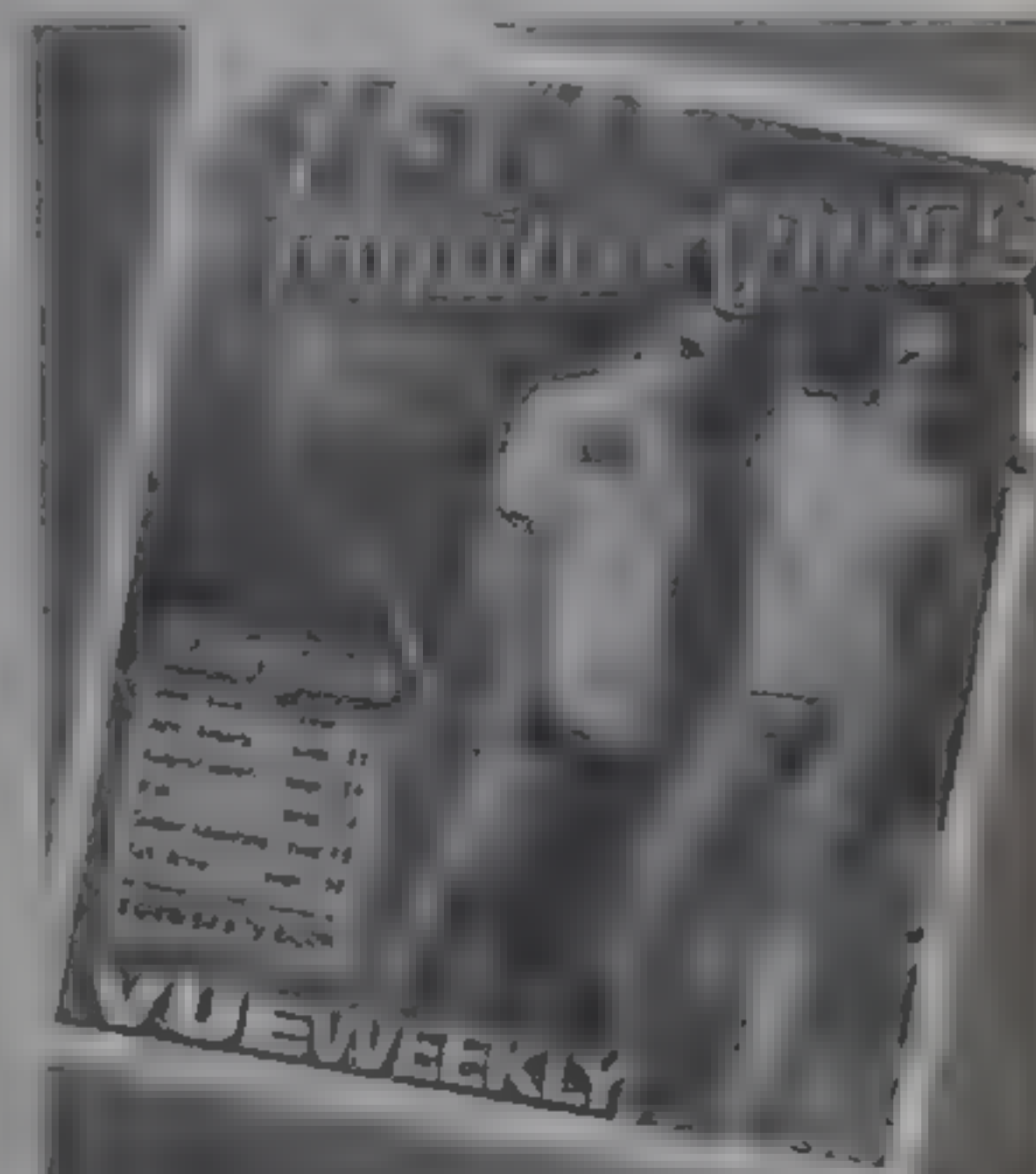
### EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL STREET PERFORMERS FESTIVAL

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Artistic Producer Shelly Switzer is a bit of a road warrior herself, travel-

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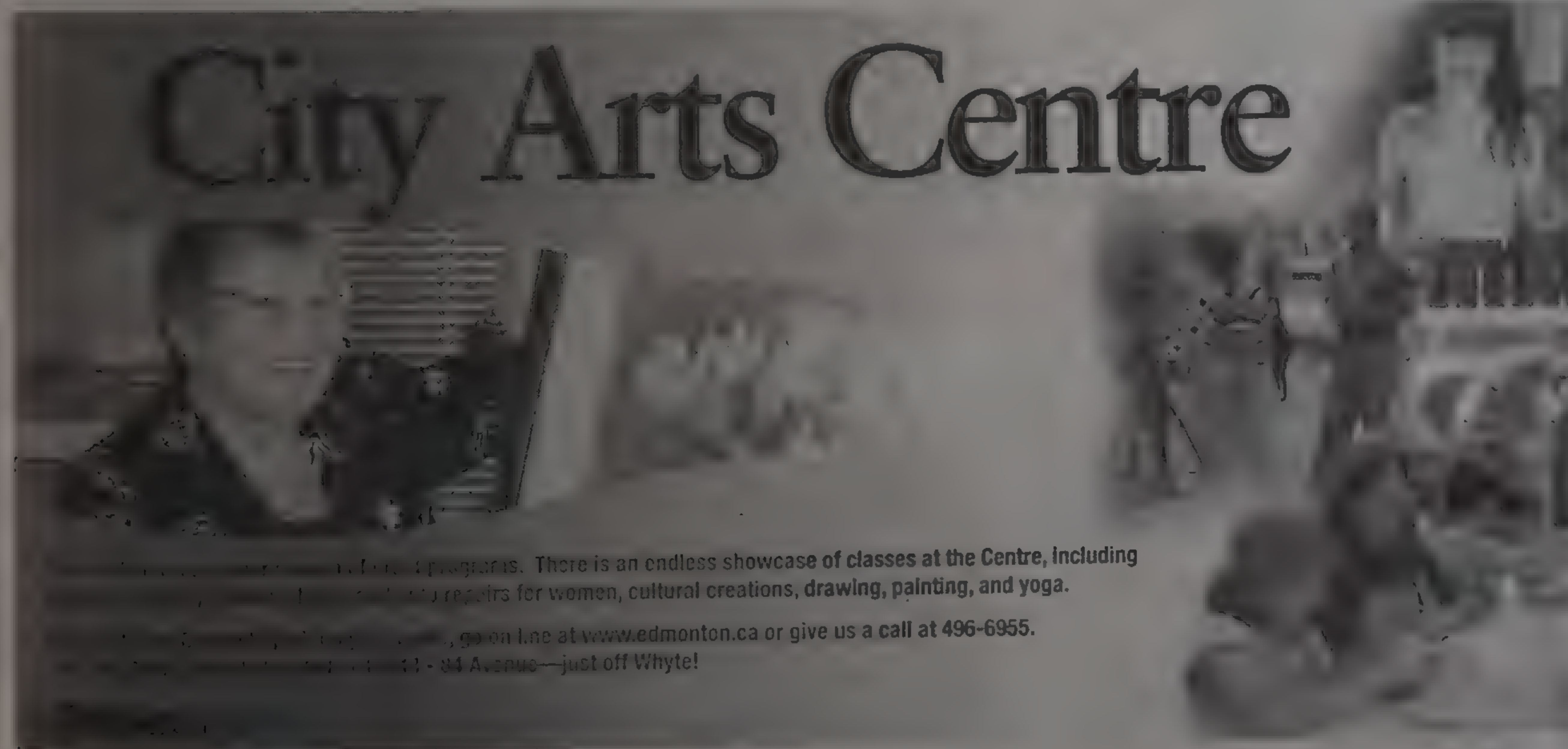


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# A glorious summer for *Richard III*

MATTHEW HALLIDAY / matthew@vancouverweekly.com

Hawrelak Park on a perfect summer's evening isn't quite the right venue for a big old Shakespearean tragedy. It's a little too pastoral, first of all—the wind tousling the leaves overhead, the birds trilling in the trees, the shouts and jeers of frisbee tossers on the other side of the park. Then, of course, there's the inevitable drone of motorcycles screaming by on Saskatchewan Drive, and the overpowered car stereo always somewhere in the vicinity, pumping the bass end of a hip-hop track so loud it vibrates the seats underneath the audience. Oh, it's a delightful scene, to be sure, but rife with distraction.

Well ... distractions or not, almost three hours after it began, the bloody, screaming climax of *Richard III* had completely banished the park's myriad diversions, and the whole outdoors seemed shrunk down to little more than the sight of Chris Bullough's flailing, mad Richard, finally and forever lost to madness.

Bullough is a unique but fitting choice to play the title role. His limping gait and gangly shuffle imply the disfigured would-be king's weakness of character and his weakness of body at the same time. And though Bullough's performance is a bit strident, it's effectively so. After all, this is a greedy, grasping anti-hero who'll lie, cheat and murder without discretion to satisfy his perverse ambitions.

In dramatic contrast to Bullough is John Wright as the reigning King Edward. Wright is probably the best actor in town to take on the role of a declining sovereign, his very presence on stage regal and dignified. Now this is a king, you think, and a man who couldn't be more dissimilar to Bullough's feeble Richard.

The rest of the cast is generally strong as well. Annette Loisel is powerful as the grief-stricken Queen Elizabeth, and Michael Peng plays Lord Buckingham, Richard's partner in crime, with ruthless efficacy.

**TO BE FAIR**, the idyllic setting wasn't always a drawback. An early scene between Richard and Lady Anne



REVUE

UNTIL SUN, JUL 20  
**RICHARD III**  
PART OF THE FREWILL SHAKESPEARE FEST  
DIRECTED BY JOHN WRIGHT  
STARRING CHRIS BULLOUGH, MELISSA MACPHERSON, JOHN WRIGHT, ANNETTE LOISELLE  
HERITAGE AMPITHEATRE, HAWRELAK PARK  
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Neville (Melissa MacPherson) brings about the play's first mini-climax, one that ends with MacPherson stalking off and out into the park, off to a distant hill, in character all the way, extending the reach of the drama well off-stage. It's a well-deployed device, not overused and engrossing. I especially liked the hired assassins skulking around visibly in the grass on the sidelines.

And anyway, as the sun set and the darkness grew around the stage, the crepuscular environs began to reflect the mounting violence on stage. The park really did seem to shrink, focused intently on the intensity of the action. Richard, now and finally king but lonely and dejected, grapples with

remorse, only to reject it in a final fit of pride and plunge into battle, dying an ignoble death in the battle at Bosworth Field—which has, along with the rest of the play, been moved from the 16th century to 1943. This *Richard* is a historical tragedy, but instead of the War of the Roses, it's World War II. Not much is made of the new milieu, though, which is probably for the best. It's guns rather than swords, and mid-century military regalia instead of period dress, but besides a few cosmetic changes, the text is the same, and overt contrivance is kept to a minimum.

There was only one real problem—the crowd was disappointingly thin with the Heritage Ampitheatre maybe one-third full (just a guesstimate). The turnout for such an excellent production, on such a beautiful day, should've been a lot better. Hopefully good reviews and enthusiastic word-of-mouth will bring in bigger crowds by the end of the Freewill's month-long run. This *Richard* certainly deserves it. ▽

## Megatunes

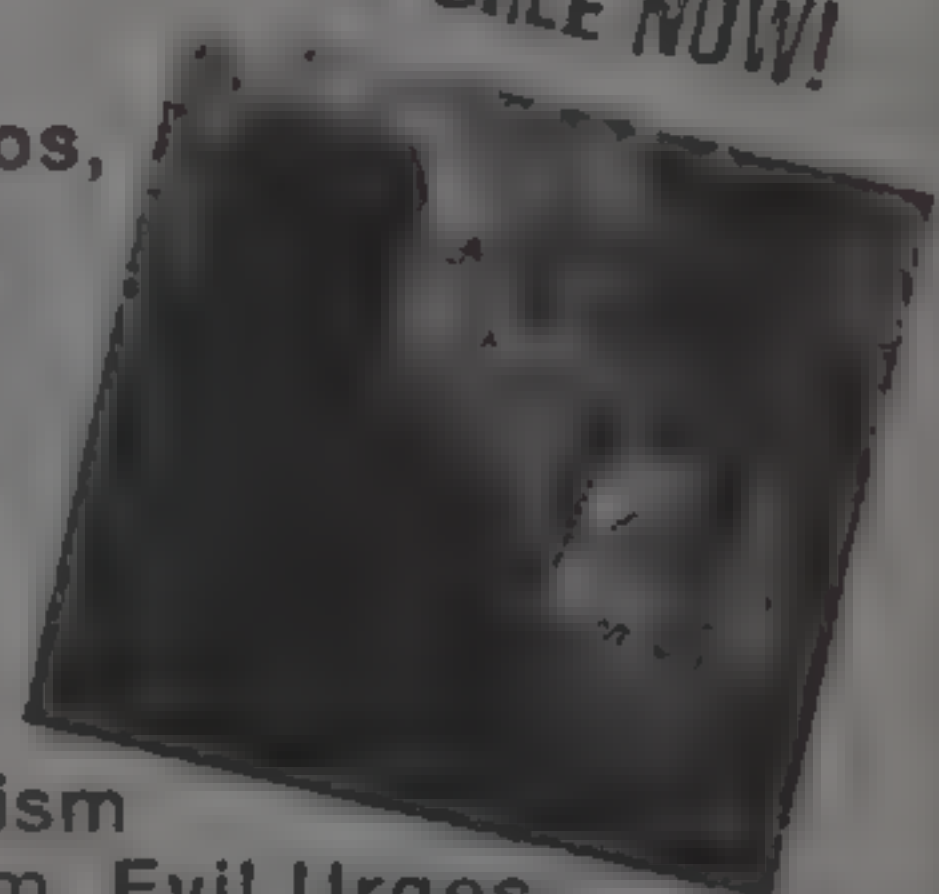
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5. Wolf Parade – At Mount Zoomer (sub pop)
6. Ndidi Onukwulu – The Contradictor (jericho beach)
7. Steve Winwood – Nine Lives (Columbia)
8. Sigur Ros – With A Buzz In Our Ears We Play Endlessly (xl)
9. Emmylou Harris – All I Intended To Be (nonesuch)
10. The Steeldrivers – S/T (rounder)
11. Martha Wainwright – I Know You're Married... (maple)
12. My Morning Jacket – Evil Urges (ato)
13. Eliza Gilkynson – Beautiful World (red house)
14. James Hunter – The Hard Way (go)
15. John Hiatt – Same Old Man (new west)
16. Dr. John – The City That Care Forgot (429)
17. Bon Iver – For Emma Forever Ago (jagaguwar)
18. Watermelon Slim And The Workers – No Paid Holidays (northern blue)
19. Van Morrison – Keep It Simple (exile)
20. Daniel Lanois – Here Is What Is (red floor)
21. KD Lang – Watershed (nonesuch)
22. John Hiatt – Same Old Man (new west)
23. Justin Townes Earle – The Good Life (bloodshot)
24. Portishead – Third (mercury)
25. Black Mountain – In The Future (scratch records)
26. Sonny Landreth – From The Reach (landfall)
27. Mudcrutch – Mudcrutch (reprise)
28. The Black Angels – Directions To See A Ghost (light in the attic)
29. Firewater – The Golden Hour (bloodshot)
30. Immortal Technique – The 3rd World (viper)

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## STREET PERFORMERS

COMING FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

ling from place to place and noting fresh acts to bring into the show (She saw the Gents perform twice, in both BC and Auckland, New Zealand, before grabbing them for this year's festival)—though after more than two decades, the festival's built up a considerable reputation for street performers across the world. Hopeful acts often come looking for her.

"Our reputation is so fantastic, a lot of artists send me their material regularly throughout the year, which is fantastic. ... And I work with the other festival producers across Canada in sharing the resources and working that way as well."

McCann certainly agrees that the

Edmonton festival has pull for performers across the globe.

"On the circuit, it's the one that all the street performers want to get involved in. Everyone's trying to get their foot in the door with this one."

**IN ADDITION** to the Gents, the list of acts performing this year reads like a colourful page of passport stamps: aside from locals like Ukelele-gods the Be Arthurs and head-scratching mystics the UnNaturals, there's Montréal acrobat Davio, Strangely Bettie Brawn from Australia, New Zealand's Vinyl Burns Rock 'N' Roll Comedy Experience and American vaudeville magician Magic Brian. There's even a pair of self-proclaimed Yo Yo masters, in addition to the other acts, local and foreign, which make up more than 150 daily performances.

Switzer's looking forward to watching audiences juggle everything she's assembled, from the nightly Troupe du Jour group performances to Be-Your-Own-Busker workshops (offering the how-to on everything from juggling to hip-hop dance), to kids shows and roving acts certain to have people stopping and staring—for a fee, of course, but she sees the pass the hat payment system as the fairest one of all.

"You let the artists know what you think the value [of their performance] is. You get to choose that as the audience member," she explains. "Of course the artists are suggesting, and they're telling you that their hats are available. But ultimately, it's that democratic art form where you, the voter get to choose where the value is and place your vote, as it were, by putting money in the artists' hat." ▽



Curator Marcus Miller provides a timeline highlighting selected Canadian and Aboriginal historical events, and offers *Red Tile's* artists as a generation bridging traditional Aboriginal and contemporary art. That this is a simplistic assertion is voiced by Joanne Cardinal-Schubert's rebuke to the AGA for using her work here without consultation, and the statement she provides to replace her piece, withdrawn from the show, touches on cultural, identity, and historical issues and also on roles of artists, galleries, and curators and the very notion of ownership of art.

Miller and the AGA lets Cardinal-Schubert's statement exist without contradiction, contributing immeasurably to the dialogue around a show comprised of beautiful pieces with much to say. (One hopes Cardinal-Schubert, a curator as well as an artist, will be invited to move the discussion forward with a show serving as a fuller response.)

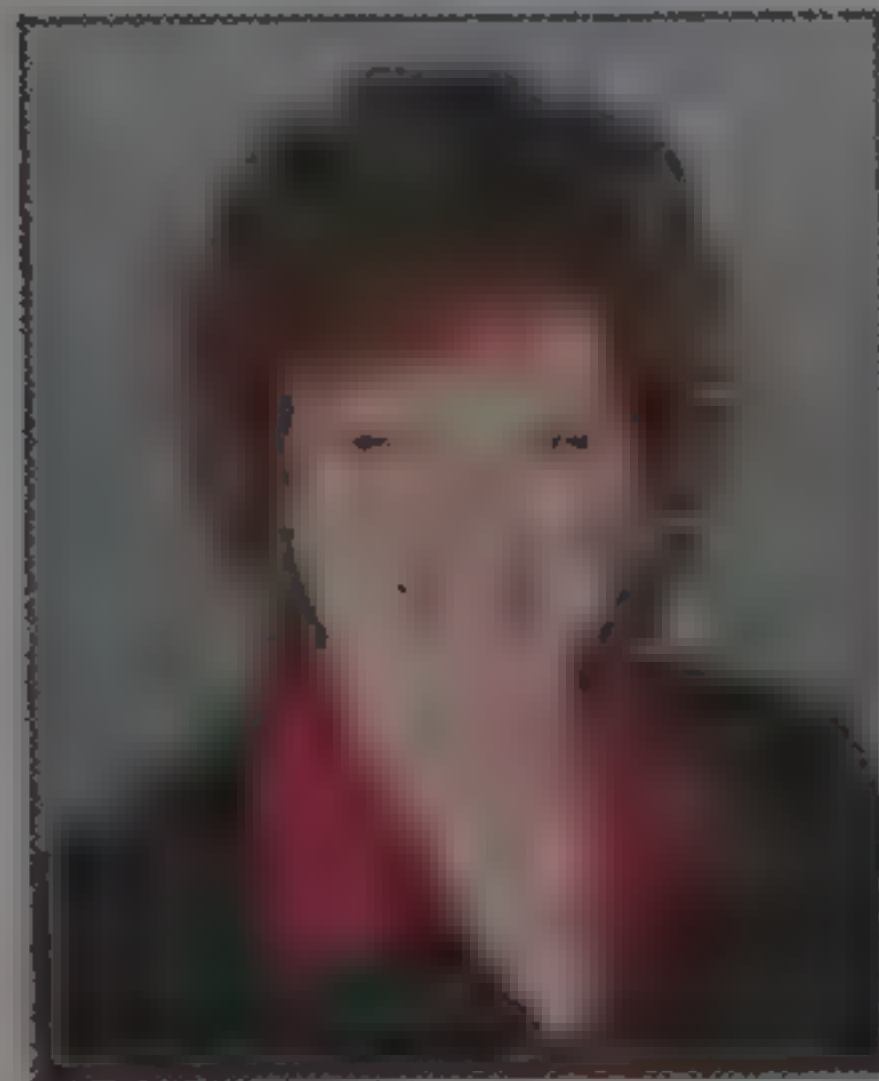
**THE LAVISH** *Face the Nation* might be seen as continuing Catherine Crowston's curatorial odyssey through contemporary photo-based work (still, moving or as part of an installation) produced by the brightest Canadian artists. *Face the Nation* may top a stylistic and loosely thematic trilogy begun in their old space with *Make Believe* and advanced with last year's *Fun House* (perhaps even in the recent *Generations*)—exceptional and revelatory shows that played with representation and the fluidity of boundaries and identity, swaddling pointed engagement with nuanced modern issues in powerfully seductive humour. *Nation* encompasses all that, with intelligence and ferocity deepened by the added long shadows cast by history.

It's a spectacular show, in both senses of the word, with unparalleled theatricality and impeccable quality both in the work and its presentation, accompanied by an equally vital catalogue. Many artists here work in performance along with more static media, and the idea of boldly inserting themselves and their own narratives into a world that strives to erase all but a chosen few into anonymity and silence is deeply resonant. Sexual identities are at play alongside cultural identities, individuality staggers proudly under a multiplicity of modern roles and the darkness of the past is exposed with unblinking righteousness for the shameful and ridiculous construction that it is: "I am/we are," tumbling over each other, until they run simultaneously, both-states true, at once. ♥



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VIEW WEEKLY

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In some regards, it was as though the book itself, our book, was at once magical and realistic. Maybe 15 years ago my old buddy Rich had found it in a house under construction in a Calgary subdivision while drunk. He carried it home and, in accordance with his perverse habit, quickly removed the dust jacket and chucked it—his bookshelves are lined with such appallingly denuded volumes. He then made a pot of coffee and read it all through the night. When he split with his girl the following year she took the book to Vancouver and he moved to the Yukon, yet months later he found it again nestled between catalogues in the washroom of a mutual friend who claimed to have no memory of its arrival.

In an act he'd later regret, Rich lent the book to me not long after their reunion. It went from this point to live in the trunk of my car for years, traveling with me all over this end of the country, unread and forgotten. The car is long gone, and I assumed I'd lost the book until finally, just last year, I found it again, taking refuge in my parents' basement following a flood. So it was only during this last week that, with the coming of Canada Day and an accompanying desire to fulfill old promises I read the damned thing, weirdly spellbound, exactly 30 years after it's publication. It starts like this:

"People, years later, blamed everything on the bees; it was the bees, they said, seducing Vera Lang, that started everything. How the town came to prosper, and then to decline, and how the road never got built, the highway that would have joined the town and the municipality to the world beyond, and how the sky itself, finally, took umbrage: it was all because one afternoon in April the swarming bees found Vera Lang asleep, there is a patch of wild flowers on the edge of the valley."

Vera Lang's impregnation by bees among the grasses of Big Knife, a particularly vulnerable settlement perched ambiguously on the border of Alberta and Saskatchewan, looms indeed as an omen of all that ultimately passes in Robert Kroetsch's *What the Crow Said*. Summoning up the sort of only half-fathomable eroticism that is exclusive to literature, Kroetsch describes Vera's body as "singing like a telephone wire ... her belly tightening to the push and rub of her myriad unthinking lovers," while every other inhabitant of Big Knife is seized with the sudden awareness of a catalytic event occurring in their midst, even the boys at school who collectively guess "they were confronting a mystery greater than any they were ever expected to or would ever learn."

**KROETSCH'S NARRATOR**, not unreliable but rather openly uncertain, follows Vera's insect tryst with stories of deaths foretold, an unyielding winter, the erection of a prairie lighthouse, ghosts, countless strange

killings, a child raised by wolves who becomes a meteorological prophet, a sex-crazed Frenchman convicted of murder who invents a flying machine and escapes from jail to seek out Vera's love-letter-writing little sister, still more inexplicable pregnancies and of course the arrival and eventual departure of the cantankerous and possibly sagely talking crow of the title. Kroetsch's characters are perpetually struggling to come to terms with the unpredictable wrath of both nature and machine, not to mention human desire. One even goes so far as to deny the existence of gravity. Their stories emerge from Kroetsch's adoption of magic realism—an experiment, rarely fashionable among the literati, that's likely kept *What the Crow Said* from being regarded with the esteem given to Kroetsch's best-known novels, *The Studhorse Man*, *Gone Indian* and *Badlands*. Yet Kroetsch deserves credit for recognizing the genre's utter suitability for conveying of tall tales told in prairie taverns and communities whose lives depend on the caprices of weather in a place where the weather makes no fucking sense at all. And Kroetsch handles the medium with ribald comic invention, making for a very entertaining, audacious and frequently poetic read.

Magical explanations seem not to be the whimsy of Big Knifeans but rather a coping mechanism for difficult lives concerned with fertility, family, land and effective negotiation with animals. These people, mostly weak, distracted men and formidable, hard-working women, suffer to hilarious extremes. For much of the novel's mid-section, the town's men become ensnared in a game of schmier from which they are unable to escape for months, like the victims of a spell that would normally be dreamed up by Luis Buñuel for the bourgeoisie of France or Mexico. The game moves from locale to locale, the men rotting away in the process. "Men lay in their own vomit, gagging and crying. Husbands ignored the entreaties of their wives, fathers denied so much as a nickel or dime to the children waiting in parked cars ..." The addiction represents a catastrophe built on boredom, frustration and susceptibility to games of chance that resonates with anyone who's spent any time in a some rural Chinese Canadian restaurant with a VLT machine plugged into a corner socket, occupied for hours at a time by some hypnotized old timer unable to even remove his parka.

It's in this manner that the greater truths are found through exaggeration. Kroetsch's use of magic realism is come by honestly because he so clearly recognizes that the fantastical elements in his story must possess an intuitive logic. Kroetsch is of course a prairie boy himself, born 81 years ago in Heisler, and by the time of *What the Crow Said* was well into a career that capitalized on his understanding of Albertan vastness, xenophobia and terror. All of this was, if I recall correctly, stuff Rich was trying to tell me when he placed the book in my hands all those years ago, back when its corners were crisp and pages un-yellowed. But sometimes a book, just like the rains that end a prairie drought, just needs some extra time to get to you. ♥







## Quirk almost overwhelms

JOSEF BRAUN / josef@vuwweekly.com

It opens with a beguiling slow-motion plume of tire-squall dust. It then glides through a montage of black and white expository tableau, sumptuous colour images and sonic elements that seem lovingly culled from scrapbooks for David Gordon Green's first two movies: a little girl swinging over a river backwards through time or a demolition derby, the scenes arcing across the screen while the little girl—her name, which she'll no doubt come to resent, is Turkeylegs—speaks through voice-over about her best friend Donald. What she says here is, in its way, crucial. There are three things Donald would like to see before he dies, Turkeylegs tells us, "A lake of chocolate, a turtle the size of a horse, and a trophy with his name on it."

*The Guatemalan Handshake* unfolds in a Pennsylvania town, dividing its time between various representatives of its citizenry. The film's catalytic event is a power surge that, in a compelling sequence, inspires a mist of varied voices that speak of malfunctioning appliances with the awe of hurricane survivors or pilgrims who've witnessed a miracle. Yet might the real, underlying catalyst that afflicts the characters in writer/director Todd Rohal's feature debut be something more like a toxic spill? Judging from those reactors lingering in the background, maybe it was a nuclear accident? Something funky must have infected the water supply in these parts, because the local eccentricity meter is way into the red.

The flashback to Spank Williams' failed public death, a grieving dog owner's attending her own funeral, a story about Amish time travelers, a guy who sounds like he's gonna have a coronary every time he talks, a photo of a man posing with Willie Mays and the world's biggest chewing gum, a handicapped boy who explains that nose-picking is "awesome"—when do such bubbles of quirkiness reach critical mass? There are several inspired gags, like whenever Stool (Rich Schreiber), the movies' most awkward date since Jackie Earle Haley, spontaneously takes off his shirt in some misguided act of foreplay—but a lot of these gags would probably work better if they weren't all shoved into a single, heavily saturated comedy.

COMEDY

SAT, JUL 5 (8:30 PM); MON, JUL 7 (9 PM)

### THE GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TODD ROHAL  
STARRING KATY HAYWOOD, WILL OLDHAM,  
SHEILA SCULLIN  
METRO CINEMA

★★★

ROHAL'S DEFINITELY gone out on a limb here, making something this unapologetically, warmly goofy, yet the goofiness rarely seems to serve much more than goofiness itself. On occasion this tack is so cartoonish that it only distances us further from the characters it purports to have affection for, like that grieving dog owner. Rohal's story is basically a chain that links characters with accoutrements—a turtle, an electric car, a wheelchair, a headband—and a scattering of events, such as Donald's disappearance following emotional trauma and a dog's electrocution, or the double injury at the roller rink. Things feel most harmonious when we get evidence of what may be Rohal's true gift: his ability to nurture strong performances from a cast of mostly non-professionals, especially Katy Haywood, who plays Turkeylegs, and Sheila Scullin, who plays Donald's estranged girlfriend Sadie. There's also a very appealing performance from musician Will Oldham as Donald himself. Strikingly clean-shaven after his bearded turn in *Old Joy*, Oldham looks and sounds so endearingly boyish here he could've walked right off the set of *Matewan*, a movie made when he was all of 16.

*The Guatemalan Handshake* is threaded together by themes of paternal anxiety—manifested in a pregnant woman participating in a demolition derby and the father of her unborn child absconding—and the letting go of childish things. Yet the film itself often feels stunted, closely guarding its own preciousness, retaining each and every affectation whether they actually gel together or not. If Rohal's next film works better than this one, it will likely be because his eccentricities are the icing on the cake rather than the cake itself. ♥



## Mumbling towards ecstasy: America's next great film movement

DAVID BERRY / david@vuwweekly.com

It's somewhat indicative of the genre's DIY leanings that there isn't a great consensus on exactly what to call it. "Mumblecore" is the tag most frequently thrown around, and it's useful, suggesting the muted, mundane aesthetic that most of the filmmakers employ. **The DIY Generation** is what the curators of the collection of films coming to Metro this weekend have christened it, and it also has some use, though it's far too vague on the actual content of the films, most of which are miles away from the work of preceding indie-film

MUMBLECORE

FRI, JUL 4 - THU, JUL 10

### THE DIY GENERATION

FEATURING DANCE PARTY USA, QUIET CITY, LOL,  
THE DEATH OF INDIE ROCK, FOUR EYED MONSTERS,  
GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE, FROM WILLOW  
AND THE CIVIL WAR

auteurs who got by on their own. "Slackavetes" (clever, but missing the point) and "Bedhead cinema" (just stupid) also get tossed around occasionally.

In the DIY spirit, though, I'd like to suggest my own for one of America's most vital and interesting current film

movements: indie neo-realism. I like that particular term for two reasons, the first of which is that it situates the genre very firmly in the dominant American youth subculture of the day indie. As with any movement that grows beyond its roots, using the word "indie" to describe anything is slowly becoming meaningless—the 21st century "punk" or "alternative"—but these films nevertheless embody the roots of the movement, existing outside more established art-distribution power structures, showing a fascination with somewhat arrested development, celebrating creation for its own sake and

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being closely tied to a few hyper-cool urban metropolises (New York, Chicago, Portland, Austin, that latter of which's SXSW festival—the indie Mecca—being where the movement solidified).

The second reason is the allusion to the Italian neo-realism movement, which is arguably the grandfather of this current crop of realists (Cassavetes being the father, Jarmusch and Linklater the older brothers). With a few exceptions—like the atrocious *Four Eyed Monsters*, as hyper-stylized a piece of shit as you're ever likely to see—the films in this movement are firmly realist in both aesthetic and philosophy, using an offhanded, occasionally voyeuristic style to capture a frequently painfully honest slice of young life in desperate search of some kind of direction. Like the originals, the indie neo-realists eschew eloquence, grand philosophical statements, excessive plot and stylized presentation, often seeming to do little more than drift in and out of their characters' lives.

**THOUGH THE FILMS** going up at Metro serve as a decent introduction, there are a few directors omitted that bear discussion, and are well worth looking into if you like what you see over the weekend. First and foremost is Andrew Bujalski, whose brilliant *Funny Ha Ha* (2002) and *Mutual Appreciation* ('05) precede the official codification of the genre, but also stand up as its finest works (he's also the one who coined the term mumblecore, though he's since expressed some regret for that). Bujalski has an Altman-like ear for natural, free-flowing dialogue, and his films are populated with characters on the verge of saying something profound, but not quite sure enough in their feelings or thoughts to fully commit. Combined with shots that are always unobtrusively in the right place and a comedian's sense of timing, Bujalski's films feel more like hanging out with intelligent though somewhat aimless friends than passively watching someone else's life go by.

The other big omission is that of the Duplass Brothers, arguably the most commercially suc-

cessful DIY filmmakers—not that that's a hard category to take home. Their first feature, *The Puffy Chair* ('05), was a story of a frustrating relationship subjected to a road trip, and showed them to be deft character sketchers, in this case getting a perfect bead on characters slowly beginning to come to grips with the fact that life contains disappointment. Their next feature, the horror flick *Baghead* ('08), that will get a premiere at Sundance and was recently picked up by Sony, seems like a necessary step for the movement, expanding beyond just exploring creative young malaise into

wider subjects. Odds are they'll be the ones to come out of the movement with the most mainstream attention.

Of the films that are showing as part of the weekend, Joe Swanberg's *LOL* ('06)—which is sharp but isn't his best film, that being the hilariously self-involved *Hannah Takes the Stairs* ('07)—and Todd Rohal's buzzed about *Guatemalan Handshake* ('06; see Josef Braun's review on the previous page) are probably the most interesting, the former a story of three misfit men slowly alienating the women in their life and the latter more of a magical realist film that nevertheless shares some of the movement's obsessions and tricks. Also not to be missed, though, is director Aaron Katz's *Quiet City* ('07), a kind of Brooklyn-based update of Linklater's *Before Sunrise*. Like Linklater, Katz has a talent both for not forcing his actors into anything and finding the often misguided truth in young philosophizing, and is

one well worth watching in a crop of filmmakers offering a radically different style of film. ▽

To read David Berry's full reviews of all the films showing in the DIY Generation series, visit [vuwweeklyblog.blogspot.com](http://vuwweeklyblog.blogspot.com) on the day of each film's first screening.

Fri, Jul 4: *Quiet City*; *Dance Party, USA*  
Sat, Jul 5: *Four-Eyed Monsters*  
Sun, Jul 6: *The Death of Indie Rock*, *LOL*  
Mon, Jul 7: *Frownland*



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# Men behaving adly

FLICKS DVDetective  
DVDetective@vuwweekly.com

One pleasant surprise of *Mad Men* is that it isn't so much about men at all. *The Sopranos*, *The Wire*, *The Shield*, *The Office* have focused on males' panic attacks, pissing contests, power plays, vigilante toughness or cringing un-self-consciousness as they try to boss away.

AMC's acclaimed show, its first season on disc even as CTV re-runs it, is set in a man's world, as suggested by its '50s nickname for Madison Avenue types and its Hitchcockian opening visuals—men in suit-and-tie silhouettes falling out of a glass skyscraper. Matthew Weiner, a *Sopranos* head writer, lands us in an advertising company in Manhattan. It's 1960, with Vietnam and the sexual revolution and women's lib and hippies and drugs on the way.

But among the copywriters and account executives at Sterling Cooper, a work day is puffed out, chased down and cheated on. The first episode, "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," opens with Don Draper (Jon Hamm) lighting up and lubricating himself in a restaurant, musing on how to ward off health concerns for his cigarette account, Lucky Strike. Don has a mistress—we see her before his wife—and his co-workers all seem to want their own lady or two on the side.

It's the women whom the show makes more interesting—not hard when these guys act, as Don tells breezy, up-and-coming Pete Campbell (Vincent Kartheiser), as if "the whole world looks like one big bra strap, waiting to be snapped." Don's new secretary is Peggy Olson (Elisabeth Moss), and Joan Holloway (Christina Hendricks), a cooing, on-top-of-things gal, shows her around the place, where "steno" girls put up with coarse innuendo and winking glances for a free lunch from these ad men who are looking for "something between a mother and a waitress." By the second episode, "Ladies Room," Peggy sees the office as a parade of leering cads.

Don's mistress Midge (Rosemarie Dewitt), independent and confident, makes his wife Betty (January Jones), who shudders her car and the children (in an age before seatbelts) into a front yard, seem all the more anxious and cooped-up a housewife, young and restless with little to do. Yet the cocky men can feel threatened by women who are, slowly but surely, making more room for themselves.

**IMPECCABLY SHOT.** *Mad Men* unfolds in slick, pseudo-glamorous interiors: boardrooms, restaurants, dining rooms,

kitchens. The faint glow of the oven door, to which so many women were tied, recedes like an ominous headlight into the darkness at the end of one episode.

The series is a narrower, more historically grounded (and less hard-hitting) look at the American Dream, at a moment when, Don asks, "Who could not be happy with all this?" The pursuit of happiness seems unnecessary—and so it's the pressure to be happy, feel worry-free, that rises and snakes through the air. That pressure to buy into satisfaction smoulders from Don's own business.

Ingenuously, *Mad Men* shows how much ads and their products—cigarettes, deodorant, even a younger "Dick Nixon" about to run for office—preach and pretend to reflect North American values. Don only considers "What do women want?" to push an aerosol deodorant onto wives shopping for their husbands. He mines life not to reflect or emboss it through art, but to reduce and sell life as a lie. All that matters is a supply of slogans and images that will whet demand.

Psychiatry is even more suspected here than in *The Sopranos*. Don, though he feels out of place, deep down, a cipher to himself, rejects the death-drive and other Freudian findings for campaigns, and doesn't want to think his wife's strain is mental. The men are glib in their white dominance, snapping others back into their place beneath them with casual condescension. A black waiter's eyed suspiciously by his white superior, a Jewish worker's used as a token to make a Jewish client feel more comfortable and a father can't "wait until that girl [his daughter] is another man's problem."

The advantage of *Mad Men* on DVD isn't just the absence of ads. A glut of special features includes a preview of the second season, a piece on the music of the show and audio commentaries. The hour-long "Establishing *Mad Men*" shows how many soporific compliments actors can pitch, but the research behind the show's unobtrusive period details, often gleaned from the writers' own childhoods, is fascinating (an Etch-A-Sketch was kept out because it hadn't come out for another few months). "Pictures of Elegance" is a fine sampler of the show's hair, costume and set designs. "Advertising the American Dream" flips through a 1960 of solidifying, post-war middle-class wealth, when political candidates started to be sold and the first family stereo, colour TV or car was momentous. One interviewee notes the self-sustaining madness of advertising—first, sponsors need to believe they should advertise, then North Americans can be sold a bill of goods. Call it dwindle-down dreamonomics. ▼

QUICK REVIEWS

## FILM CAPSULES

### OPENING THIS WEEK

#### HANCOCK

DIRECTED BY PETER BERG

WRITTEN BY VINCENT NGO, VINCE GILLIGAN

STARRING WILL SMITH, JASON BATEMAN, CHARLIZE THERON

★★

OMAR MOUALLEM / omar@vuweekly.com

It's a very neat concept: a modern-day Los Angeles super hero—the only super-being in the world, and about as able as Superman—doesn't wear a cape and he doesn't need a disguise. His haven is an aluminum trailer on top of a desert hill, not like he needs it at all. Instead, he sleeps on park benches, spooning a bottle of scotch. His name is *Hancock*, and he's an alcoholic.

This clever script floated around Hollywood desks for over a decade, getting numerous passes, a pick-up here and there, followed by a put-down and another pass. Even with the foresight of the Hollywood type, they were all able to see or sense that something was wrong, a feeling that probably punched their gut around halfway through reading it. But then the generous people at Sony decided to take a chance on it, realizing the dreams of two screenwriters named Vince, and put it in the shakiest hands in Hollywood, Peter Berg (*The Kingdom*).

Will Smith is John Hancock, and whenever he comes to the assistance of some chump, he bungles his own heroics, causing more damage to city property than the perpetrators he's after. He can't help it, he's just too strong for humankind. But while the citizens beg for his indictment—something even the mayor recognizes as silly because, really, Hancock could sleepwalk out of prison—he saves Ray Embrey (Jason Bateman) from a train collision. Of course, Hancock inspires more mechanic bills than necessary, garnering a choir of "asshole" insults, but as Ray explains to the ungrateful, "I get to see my family."

Mr Embrey, a publicist, offers to help clean up Hancock's image. Although Hancock is resistant at first, and very occupied with some sexual tension between himself and Mrs Embrey (Charlize Theron), he takes the deal. His first media stunt is to turn himself in and serve hard time. He's promised that it won't be long before LA is begging for his release and help again. It's not.

But hold on, what was with all that sexual tension between Hancock and Mrs

Embrey? Well, it turns out that before Hancock bonked his head and became an amnesiac with superpowers, he was married to Mrs Embrey. That was 80 years ago. They're millennia old. They're actually angels. She is just as strong as he but their invincibility wears off when they're together. All that exposition is explained to us through longwinded dialogue between spurts of violence between Hancock and Mrs Embrey, and seemingly random explosions. (This is probably the point that filmmakers passed on the script and moved on to make another buddy cop flick instead.)

It's actually not all that bad of a twist, but its execution, and its promotion to A-plot, is shoddy. Hancock's whole character arc, from pariah to media darling, is abandoned entirely, and to boot, there are no villains to raise the stakes (although three prisoners Hancock screwed over in jail break out and provide a bad climax, but we don't even know their names or whether they're superhuman or just super mad).

It hurts to see a movie so creative and against-the-grain crumble under its ambition, but there are some conventions that can't be neglected. Superheroes need supervillains. Extremely complex backstories need extremely visual expositions. And alcoholics need to experience withdrawal. As under-appreciated as 90-minute movies are, Hancock still requires another half-hour just to get the job done.

#### KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL

DIRECTED BY PATRICIA HIXSON

WRITTEN BY ANA PROCTOR

STARRING ABIGAIL BRESLIN, CHRIS O'DONNELL

★

OMAR MOUALLEM / omar@vuweekly.com

*Kit Kittredge: An American Girl* is not about your average American girl. Played by Academy Award nominee Abigail Breslin (*Little Miss Sunshine*), Kit is compassionate, kind, intelligent—and an aspiring journalist! Although the 10-year-old is growing up in the Great Depression, if something like *Hannah Montana* existed then, she wouldn't have a modicum of interest. She's too busy working with her mother (Julia Ormond) to save the people of Cincinnati from poverty, then writing about it in an article for the *Cincinnati Register*. But that mean, old, homunculus editor (Wallace Shawn) never prints a word of hers.

One by one, the families of her friends have their houses foreclosed, until Kit's

own house is in danger. When Mr Kittredge (Chris O'Donnell) moves to Chicago for work, Kit and Mrs Kittredge turn their home into a boarding house until its tenants include a sexy dance instructor (Jane Krakowski), a mobile librarian (Joan Cusack) and a magician (Stanley Tucci).

The Kittredges also let two young hobos stick around most afternoons for odd jobs. But when a pandemic of hobo crimes ravages Cincinnati, the police come after the littlest hobos around. But they're Kit's hobo friends, and she doesn't believe these hobos, or most hobos at that, are criminals. And if the script contained the word hobo one more time, this critic would have been pushed over the hobo edge, forever walking 118 Ave, begging for hobo help.

This is the type of brown-hued sappi-ness you get with a Hallmark movie of the week. Based on a series of intelligent dolls—American Girl, an alternative to Barbie—already three "girl-sized" issues from historic times in US history have been turned into TV movies. Why this one didn't also premiere on television is a mystery. Why it decided to premiere during one of the hottest summers, amongst two super hero movies, a CGI robot and panda and an assassin flick is the bigger mystery. It really doesn't stand a chance.

And if your kids haven't already been sullied by MTV, they probably still won't like Kit Kittredge. Even for a generation raised on bubble-gum-flavoured toothpaste, it's too saccharine. When the movie goes into high-gear detective mode, and Kit and company hunt for the real perps it's a lot of fun. But when it goes into another lesson in helping thy neighbour your kids are more likely to slingshot a rock through thy neighbour's window, all because you made them sit through this when they'd rather be outside running through a sprinkler.

#### TERMINATOR RETROSPECTIVE

FEATURING THE TERMINATOR,

TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY

SUN, JUL 6 (2 PM); METRO CINEMA

JOSEF BRAUN / josef@vuweekly.com

Is there a case to be made for Arnold Schwarzenegger being heralded as a great—or should we say "fantastic"—actor? The hulking, hyperconfident, business-savvy Austrian bodybuilder who so dazzled Hollywood during his ascension into the realm of Californian politics is so

CONTINUES ON PAGE 56

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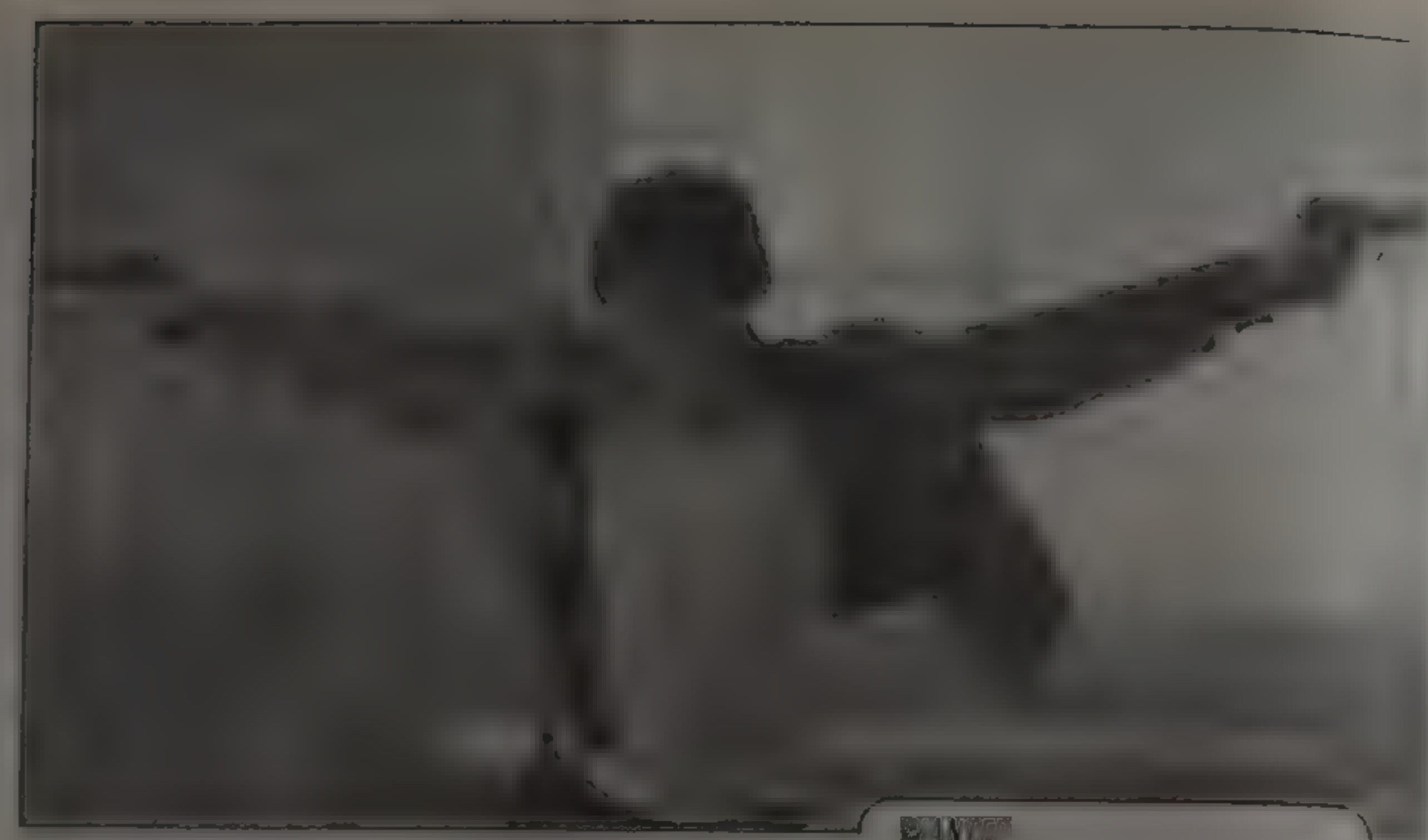
# FILM CAPSULES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53

resolutely larger than life, bordering on extraterrestrial, so ill-fitting in the rôle of a mere mortal, only a fool could take up the enterprise of claiming the man could ~~only~~ ~~all that could~~ ~~a~~ ~~man~~ ~~of~~ ~~human~~ experience. But there came a time when the movies genuinely needed him, and he answered their call, filling a niche that's absolutely singular.

Who else could possibly become the Nietzschean brute in *Conan the Barbarian* (1982)? There's not a single action hero from whatever athletic or aesthetic discipline, neither a Jean-Claude nor a Dolph, who exudes the same outsized will, the same steely focus, the same base satisfaction and near-palpable, unabashed narcissism. In his unwavering appraisal of what is good in life ("to crush your enemies, see them driven before you and to hear the lamentations of the women"), in his supple swinging of heavy weaponry, in his decidedly arrogant prayers to Crom, Schwarzenegger's is a performance of total conviction, crude heroism manifested through sheer body mass and a 1000-mile stare.

I'd argue *Conan* remains his career peak, but you could just as easily argue that Schwarzenegger was never more at home in any role as he was playing the killer robot from the future, a role fully utilizing Schwarzenegger's unusual talent for physical concision and control. Metro Cinema will be screening *The Terminator* ('84) and *The Terminator 2: Judgment Day* ('91) back to back this Sunday and the pairing certainly showcases one of the strangest movie icons to come around since Boris Karloff's Frankenstein's monster, a model



for Schwarzenegger's "good" terminator of the second film, a psychologically primitive techno-beast of man's creation capable of becoming more human through the untainted intentions of an admiring child, wonderfully played by Edward Furlong.

This second terminator was by far the more complex character, though *T2* was ultimately so excessive in every respect—especially duration—that it's the original that, for all its technically less advanced effects, has aged better and holds more charm. It's a fiercer, leaner, more impactful story still imbued with writer/director James Cameron's contagious sense of child-like awe over the time-slipping, apocalyptic scope of his killer sci-fi idea. Still, even in that first time out there was still too much of at least two things: dull flash-forwards to the dreary future better imagined by the audience, and the even duller performance from Michael Biehn, whose heavy emoting feels all the more ham-fisted next to the monster's terrifying placidity. See both films for the fun and the continuity, but if you have to choose just one, I'd go with the one where Amie's playing the ultimate soulless bad-ass.

## NOW PLAYING

### WALL-E

DIRECTED BY ANDREW STANTON  
WRITTEN BY STANTON, JIM STEWART  
WITH THE VOICES OF BEN BURTT, ELISSA KNIGHT  
★★★★★

BRIAN GIBSON / [brian@vueweekly.com](mailto:brian@vueweekly.com)

With the Disney offerings coming down the pixie-dusted pipeline (*Beverly Hills Chihuahua*? Hand me the pooper scooper), Pixar's productions look like the only palatable—and beautifully palette-able—films connected with the company. The short preamble to *WALL-E*, David Sweetland's *Presto*—complete with a magic-show-poster design for the title and end credits—is a card trick-quick mix of magic and slapstick: a furtive magician soon learns not to refuse his rabbit his nightly carrot before he pulls it out of his hat.

But the feature that follows, Andrew Stanton's haunting, fantastic, and eerie robot reverie *WALL-E*, is an astonishing achievement, even by Pixar standards.

Amid Hulked-up, CGI, green-screen, but let-time F/X passed off as stories on steroids, here's a down-to-earth, passionately but dauntingly human story—except the most human beings are robots

From its opening, with a long-lost musical tune echoing through a junkyard metropolis all harsh sunlight, dust, and rusting metal, *WALL-E* takes the risk, for a mainstream animated movie, of setting us down in a Manhattan devoid of man. The only sign of life is *WALL-E*, a little trash-compacting robot who whirs around on his treaded wheels, diligently stacking up skyscrapers of trash, before going home with his pet roach to sleep among his collected, archived pieces of human trash (Rubik's cube, spork, video of *Hello Dolly!*, iPod). But then a spacecraft lands, sending out an egg-like robot named Eve that either catalogues everything it sees or blasts it to pieces

*WALL-E* takes a further risk by outstripping even Hayao Miyazaki's eco-fable *Spirited Away*—here, humans have removed themselves from the basic elements of life: earth, sky, water, grass. Our race has fled home and cruise-shiping through space, become a soda-guzzling, overweight throng watching little screens or billboards while moving around on hoverseats (not unlike the audience sitting in theatres watching the big screen). In control is the Buy N Large corporation (in the film's most caustic satirical touch, the White House had been privatized, with the BNL President a stupidly boosterish George Dubya, uttering such Bushisms as "stay the course").

None of this works without the lonely dogged *WALL-E*. His binocular-enclosed, wall-eyed look makes him a sort of worried ET, and deft little touches—groggily getting out of bed to go off to work; clinging to a dormant, sealed-up Eve through all kinds of weather—add more and more complex heartfelt circuitry to his character.

There's also a clever reworking of the 2001 theme music, a stunning ballet of machine movement, a rocketing display of space pyrotechnics between two courting robots. *WALL-E* is such a beautifully wrought film that it reveals, with every scene, the rich, beautiful potential for all-too-human life and art that we seem to be throwing away.

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WANTED  
DIRECTED BY TIMUR BEKMAMBETOV  
STORY BY MICHAEL BRANDT, DEREK HAAS,  
JAMES MORGAN  
CASTING JAMES MCAVOY, ANGELINA JOLIE  
☆☆☆

JONATHAN BUSCH / jonathan@vuwweekly.com  
At the moment, Hollywood special effects might be at a predictable standstill, but every so often, a film's CGI razzle dazzle gives a sensory manifestation of time and movement-based philosophy. It starts with the film's ability to engage with the viewer as though itself were alive, and the allure it produces for audiences make the action genre consistently the summer box office. But that's hardly enough to make a lasting, cultural gift when a film becomes overconfident in such a phenomenon, as is the case with *Wanted*, a spectacular but characteristically numb endeavor from a traffic jam of contemporary talents.  
Widely acclaimed director Timur Bekmambetov propels the most interest, drawing forth what's interesting about Mark Millar and JG Jones comic series about a young accountant who learns his role as a genetically gifted assassin after his estranged badass dad is supposedly gunned down. Wesley (James McAvoy) at first thinks his life is rather meaningless, until tattooed, bee-stung beauty Fox (Angelina Jolie) saves his butt from near death at an all-night pharmacy. She drives him across town to meet the Fraternity, an age-old team of killers living under the guidance of loom factory boss Sloan (Morgan Freeman). Wesley, at first befuddled at the absurdity of the scenario, resists his calling until learning the truth about his legacy that eagerly starts him on a unique training of curving bullets and leaping across train cars.  
Upon his realization, he is also introduced to a special loom that weaves together a mysterious, fateful code that spells out the names of their chosen targets—individuals whom are destined to do society bad if kept alive. But Wesley grows confused after the missions that the loom delivers are names of people none of the team expected to need icing. Is there something he isn't being told? Probably.  
Bekmambetov made a grand stir in Russian cinema with brilliant efforts *Nightwatch* and *Daywatch*, and proves with *Wanted* that his style of direction is more than welcome to help recreate North American action cinema. It's worth sitting through for the incredible mise-en-scene alone, as the surface of the screen comes alive in a string of sophisticatedly cut and framed sequences. Wesley and Fox's missions bear stylistic remnants of *The Matrix*, *Fight Club*, and even *2001: A Space Odyssey* as a car chase splices between squealing tires and second-long shots of faces, almost rhythmically broken apart. Even its most pedestrian moments, like an open-ended train crash in which the lives of dozens of passengers are unspoken for, feels momentarily exhilarating.  
But *Wanted's* screenplay is far too ordinary to justify the absurdity of its plot, jammed with clichéd, macho dialogue and misguided character development. As much as Jolie and McAvoy try to singe the screen with sexuality and humour, a pretty senseless code of morality and honour are written into their encounters as hot bad/good guys. But it's an excuse to enjoy a few hours of air conditioning in the dark, provided you're not into glow bowling. **W**

FILM LISTINGS

FRI JULY 4 - THU JULY 10, 2008

All showtimes are subject to change at any time. Please contact the venue to confirm.

CHAZA THEATRE-JASPER

2001 Commercial Dr. Jasper, Alberta T5S 1A5

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
Daily 1:30, 7:00, 9:30

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Daily 1:30, 7:00, 9:10

CINEMA AT THE CENTRE

2001 Commercial Dr. Jasper, Alberta T5S 1A5

**LE PETIT LIEUTENANT (14A, coarse language)**  
Wed 6:30; free: French with English subtitles

CINEMA CITY MOVIES 12

139 Ave 50 St. 472-9772

**SPEED RACER (PG)**  
Daily 1:15, 4:00, 6:55, 9:50

**THE STONE ANGEL (14A, sexual content)**  
Daily 1:40, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25

**MADE OF HONOR (PG, sexual content, coarse language)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:20; Sat 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:20, 11:30

**HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY (18A, substance abuse, crude content)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 1:50, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55; Sat 1:50, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55, 12:10

**FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (18A, sexual content)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45; Sat 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45, 12:10

**THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG, violence)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 2:05, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00; Sat 2:05, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00, 12:20

**BABY MAMA (PG, coarse language, mature themes)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 1:25, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05; Sat 1:25, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05, 12:15

**YOUNG AT HEART (PG)**  
Daily 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15

**STREET KINGS (18A, violence)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 9:50; Sat 9:50, 12:15

**COLLEGE ROAD TRIP (G)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 9:35; Sat 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 9:35, 11:35

**NIM'S ISLAND (G)**  
Daily 1:50, 4:45, 7:15

**DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G)**  
Daily 1:35, 4:30, 7:05

**10,000 B.C. (PG, violence)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 9:30; Sat 9:30, 11:55

**THE BANK JOB (14A, violence, nudity, mature themes)**  
Fri, Sun-Thu 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40; Sat 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40, 12:00

CINEPLEX ODEON NORTH

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL (G)**  
Fri-Mon, Wed-Thu 12:15, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05; Tue 3:00, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05; Star and Strollers Screening: Tue 1:00

**WALL-E (G)**  
No passes Daily 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; Digital Cinema, No passes Daily 1:00, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30; Digital Cinema Daily 1:00, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 2:00, 3:30, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:40

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Daily 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

**THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)**  
Daily 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)**  
Daily 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10

**THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG, violence)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun 1:40, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

**NIM'S ISLAND (G)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 5:10, 7:30; Sat-Sun 2:00, 5:10, 7:30

**21 (PG, violence, mature themes)**  
Daily 9:30

**DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:30, 6:30, 8:30; Sat-Sun 1:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15

CITY-CENTRE 8

10200-102 Ave. 521-7020

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:30, 7:05, 9:35

CINEPLEX ODEON SOUTH

1025-99 St. 438-8585

**KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL (G)**  
Fri-Mon, Wed-Thu 12:15, 3:10, 6:05, 9:10; Tue 3:10, 6:30, 9:10; Star and Strollers Screening: Tue 1:00

**LOVE STORY 2050 (Hindi W.E.S.T., STC)**  
Fri-Thu 12:45, 4:45, 8:30

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
No passes Daily 11:45, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30

**WALL-E (G)**  
Daily 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 10:15

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 10:45

**THODA PYAAR THODA MAGIC (Hindi W.E.S.T., PG)**  
Daily 1:45, 7:20

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:50

**THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)**  
Daily 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 8:10, 10:45

**THE HAPPENING (14A, gory scenes)**  
Fri-Wed 3:50, 7:50, 10:15; Thu 3:50, 10:15

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)**  
Daily 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20

**YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE ZOHAN (14A, sexual content)**  
Daily 1:10

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
Daily 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20

**IRON MAN (PG, not recommended for young children, violence)**  
Daily 10:40

**SEX AND THE CITY (18A)**  
Digital Cinema Fri-Tue, Thu 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40; Wed 12:10, 3:20, 9:40

**INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG, frightening scenes, violence)**  
Daily 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:45

CINEPLEX WEST MALL 8

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**SPEED RACER (PG)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Sun 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

**HAROLD AND KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY (18A, substance abuse, crude content)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:45, 6:50, 9:10; Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:45, 6:50, 9:10

**MADE OF HONOR (PG, sexual content, coarse language)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:50, 7:15, 9:20; Sat-Sun 1:45, 4:50, 7:15, 9:20

**BABY MAMA (PG, coarse language, mature themes)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 5:00, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun 1:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50

**FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (18A, sexual content)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:20, 6:40, 9:00; Sat-Sun 1:10, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

**THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG, violence)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun 1:40, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

**NIM'S ISLAND (G)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 5:10, 7:30; Sat-Sun 2:00, 5:10, 7:30

**21 (PG, violence, mature themes)**  
Daily 9:30

**DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G)**  
Fri, Mon-Thu 4:30, 6:30, 8:30; Sat-Sun 1:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15

CITY-CENTRE 8

10200-102 Ave. 521-7020

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:30, 7:05, 9:35

WALL-E (G)

Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Thurs 12:35, 3:20, 7:15, 9:50

THE HAPPENING (14A, gory scenes)

DTS Digital Daily 6:50, 9:10, 7:25, 9:50

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)

DTS Digital Daily 12:20, 3:10, 6:40, 9:25

KUNG FU PANDA (PG)

DTS Digital Daily 1:15, 3:45

SEX AND THE CITY (18A)

Digital Presentation Fri-Sun, Tue-Thurs 12:15, 3:25, 6:30, 9:40; Mon 12:15, 3:25, 9:40

THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)

DTS Digital Daily 1:10, 3:40, 6:45, 9:15

GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)

DTS Digital Daily 12:20, 3:10, 6:40, 9:25

EXPULSION OF INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED (PG)

DTS Digital Daily 12:25, 3:00, 6:35, 9:10

HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)

Dolby Stereo Digital, No passes Daily 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

CLAREVIEW 10

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL (G)**  
Daily 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
No passes Fri-Sun 1:10, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40; Mon-Thurs 1:10, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40

**WALL-E (G)**  
No passes Fri-Sun 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thurs 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
No passes Daily 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:25, 9:50

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)**  
Daily 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:25

**THE HAPPENING (14A, gory scenes)**  
Daily 4:40, 10:00

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
Daily 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20

**INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG, frightening scenes, violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:40, 6:35, 9:15

**YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE ZOHAN (14A, sexual content)**  
Daily 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 9:35

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Daily 1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

**THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)**  
Daily 2:00, 7:30

GALAXY-SHERWOOD PARK

2020 Sherwood Drive. 418-0150

**KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL (G)**  
Daily 12:20, 3:30, 6:40, 9:10

**WALL-E (G)**  
Daily 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:50, 7:15, 10:15

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Daily 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10

**THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)**  
Daily 12:30, 7:05

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)**  
Daily 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:45

**YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE ZOHAN (14A, sexual content)**  
Daily 3:20, 9:20

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
Daily 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00

**INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG, frightening scenes, violence)**  
Daily 1:00, 3:15p; Movies For Mommies: Tue 4:00

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Daily 12:10, 1:20, 2:40, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 9:10, 10:10

GARMEAU

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**MONGOL (14A, gory scenes)**  
Daily 6:50, 9:10; Sat, Sun 2:00

GRANDIN THEATRE

Grandin Mall, Str Winston Churchill Ave. St. 438-8585

**Thu, July 3, date of issue only:**

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Thu, July 3: 12:50, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30

**WALL-E (G)**  
No passes Thu, July 3: 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:10

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
No passes Thu, July 3: 1:35, 3:40, 5:30, 7:35, 9:25

**THE LOVE GURU (14A, crude content)**  
Thu, July 3: 4:30, 6:15, 8:00, 9:45

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Thu, July 3: 1:10, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:40

DUGGAN CINEMA-CAMROSE

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
Daily 6:55, 9:05; Sat, Sun, Tue, Thu 1:55

**WALL-E (G)**  
Daily 7:00 9:10, Sat, Sun, Tue, Thu 2:00

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
Daily 7:10; Sat, Sun, Tue, Thu 2:10

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG, violence, frightening scenes)**  
Daily 9:00

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 7:05, 9:15, Sat, Sun, Tue, Thu 2:05

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Daily 7:15, 9:20; Sat, Sun, Tue, Thu 2:15

LEDUC CINEMAS

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**Thu, July 3, date of issue only:**

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Thu, July 3: 1:00, 3:30, 7:10, 9:35

**WALL-E (G)**  
Thu, July 3: 1:05, 3:25, 7:05, 9:25

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Thu, July 3: 12:55, 3:20, 6:55, 9:20

METRO CINEMA

10011-11th Avenue NW. T5C 0A8

**THE TERMINATOR (18A)**  
Sun 2:00

**TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY (18A)**  
Sun 4:00

**GUATEMALAN HANDSHAKE (PG, coarse language not recommended for young children)**  
Sat 8:30; Mon 9:00

**THE DEATH OF INDIE ROCK (18A, substance abuse)**  
Sun 8:30; Tue 7:00

**LOL (14A, nudity)**  
Sun 7:00; Tue 8:30

**FOUR EYED MONSTERS (14A, coarse language)**  
Sat 7:00; Wed 7:00

**FROWNLAND (14A)**  
Mon 7:00; Wed 8:30

**QUIET CITY (PG coarse language)**  
Fri 7:00, 8:30; Thu 7:00

**DANCE PARTY, USA (STC)**  
Fri 7:00

PARKLAND CINEMA 7

130 Century Crossing, Service Drive, 872-2202, Serving Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, Parkland County

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Daily 1:00, 3:15p; Movies For Mommies: Tue 4:00

**WALL-E (G)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:05

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:30, 7:05, 9:35

WESTMOUNT CENTRE

121 Ave. Royal Oak. 468-9225

**WALL-E (G)**  
Dolby Stereo Digital, No passes Fri-Sun 1:00, 3:40, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu 1:00, 3:40, 7:00, 9:30

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Sr Dolby Digital, No passes Fri-Sun 1:10, 3:30, 6:50, 9:20; Mon-Thu 1:10, 3:30, 6:50, 9:20

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
DTS Digital, No passes Daily 12:50, 3:40, 7:00, 9:30

**GET SMART (PG, violence, coarse language)**  
DTS Digital Daily 12:40, 3:10, 6:40, 9:10

WETASKIWIN CINEMAS

780-552-9942

**Thu, July 3, date of issue only:**

**WANTED (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)**  
Daily 12:50, 3:30, 7:05, 9:35

**WALL-E (G)**  
Thu, July 3: 1:05, 3:25, 7:05, 9:25

**HANCOCK (PG, violence, coarse language, crude content)**  
Thu, July 3: 12:55, 3:20, 6:55, 9:20

FILM

JUL 3 - JUL 9, 2008

57



**JULY 9**

An Evening With...

**the FIVE POINTS QUINTET** (2 sets) in the lounge 18+  
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with **LAST PRIORITY & THRASHTIC FIBROSIS****JULY 11****"Mammary Masquerade"** 18+  
**BREAST CANCER** FUNDRAISER  
featuring **CAPITAL CITY BURLESQUE** troupe**JULY 19****BLACKLISTED** 18+  
**"INTENSIVES"**  
**LESBIAN FIST MAGNET**  
**ALCOHOLIC WHITE TRASH** in the lounge**JULY 25****the JOLTS** 18+  
**LET'S DANCE** IN THE BURBS  
**the OLD WIVES** CHEAP HOOCH!!!  
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## Songbirds of a feather play together

DAVID BERRY / david@vueweekly.com

**R**ealistically, it was probably only a matter of time before **Colleen Brown and Darren Frank** ended up on stage together. Though they occupy slightly different points on the spectrum—Brown is more of a confessional chanteuse, of the kind Canada seems to have the market cornered on, whereas Frank is more of a pop observationist, a song

**FOLK POP** SAT, JUL 5 (3 PM)  
**COLLEEN BROWN & DARREN FRANK**  
EMPRESS ALE HOUSE, FREE

writer who puts his ear to the ground before putting pen to paper—they both trade in a very lyrical, expansive folk-pop, wrapping a wry, earnest sensibility in easy to digest melodies. And, of course, there's the small fact that the pair has been an extra-musical duo for almost three years now, making their collaboration not so much an establishing of a relationship as an extending of it.

"There are certainly other reasons, but part of it is just that we don't want to be apart a lot of the time, so we wanted to play on each other's stuff," says Brown, throwing a lazy arm around Frank before resting her head on his shoulder and breaking out in a goofy, toothy grin. "Yeah, I know, it's goofy, lovey-dovey shit, but it's true."

"We really do admire each other as musicians and songwriters," adds Frank after casting an admiring glance at the songbird resting on his arm. "It just makes a lot of sense to use each other, especially if we're going to be touring, spending time in a cramped van with people for weeks at a time."

"That's so romantic," adds Brown with a laugh, straightening herself up. "That's exactly how we want to do it."

Though they do get along famously the desire to play together also has its practical roots. Ever since his last band, Roger, called it quits, Frank has been slowly building up a group of players around him, going from just him and a guitar to a fuller sound. Brown, meanwhile, has found that playing with her rock trio the Secretaries has given her an appreciation for having someone else on the stage, to shoulder the load of putting on a good show.

"With the Secretaries, the pressure isn't on one of us to pull off everything: it's all of us together," she explains. "I wanted that kind of feeling for all the projects that I'm in. I feel like if I'm going to put in all this time and effort into doing my own stuff, I should make it a live performance that I actually like doing, with people I like."







BUT WHILE the people Brown likes undoubtedly includes Frank, it doesn't mean the union on stage isn't a bit incongruous. Though Frank's wide-eyed songwriting tendencies keep him arm's distance from his life, Brown's last album, *Foot in Heart*, was all about one of her favourite subjects, love gone awry, something that doesn't immediately lend itself to performing with your boyfriend. So far, though, the duo hasn't let the content of their songs affect the playing of them.

"Honestly, it's not weird for me, because I know the songs she's singing aren't about me," says Frank with a subtle smile.

"And, you know, a certain amount of songwriting has to be taken with a grain of salt, and just taken as a song, and not my diary," adds Brown. "There is quite a bit of it that comes from a personal place, but a lot of that has sort of been turned around to suit my artistic needs."

"That said, even though I did just release an album of love songs, I do write about other things," she continues. "Actually, the songs that I've been writing recently are pretty far away from that kind of stuff."

"Yeah, before she was just sort of sad and sitting at home waiting for her boyfriend to call," chimes in Frank with a knowing smile. "Now she's writing this kind of disco-themed, upbeat album. I'll take credit for that, I

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## THU LIVE MUSIC

**BACKDRAUGHT PUB** Open stage,  
8pm

**BLUE CHAIR CAFE** Evalyn Parry,  
David Celia, 8pm, \$10

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Sandybena and  
the Breakdown

**CHOCOLATE PARTY PUB**  
stage hosted by Alberta Crude, 8-  
10pm

**DRINK BAR AND GRILL**  
Patric local singer songwriters even  
Thu night, Dale Ladouceur and Barne  
N ghswander, 7-9pm, no cover

**DUSTER'S PUB** Thursdays open  
stage hosted by the Mary Thomas  
Band, 9pm

**FOUR ROOMS** Arthea Cunningham,  
8pm

**HOLBERT'S** Thursdays open  
stage: Thaneah, 10 Feet of Hair, 8pm,  
\$12 at ticketSource, \$15 (door)

**IVORY CLUB** Live Dueling Pianos, no  
cover, 8pm

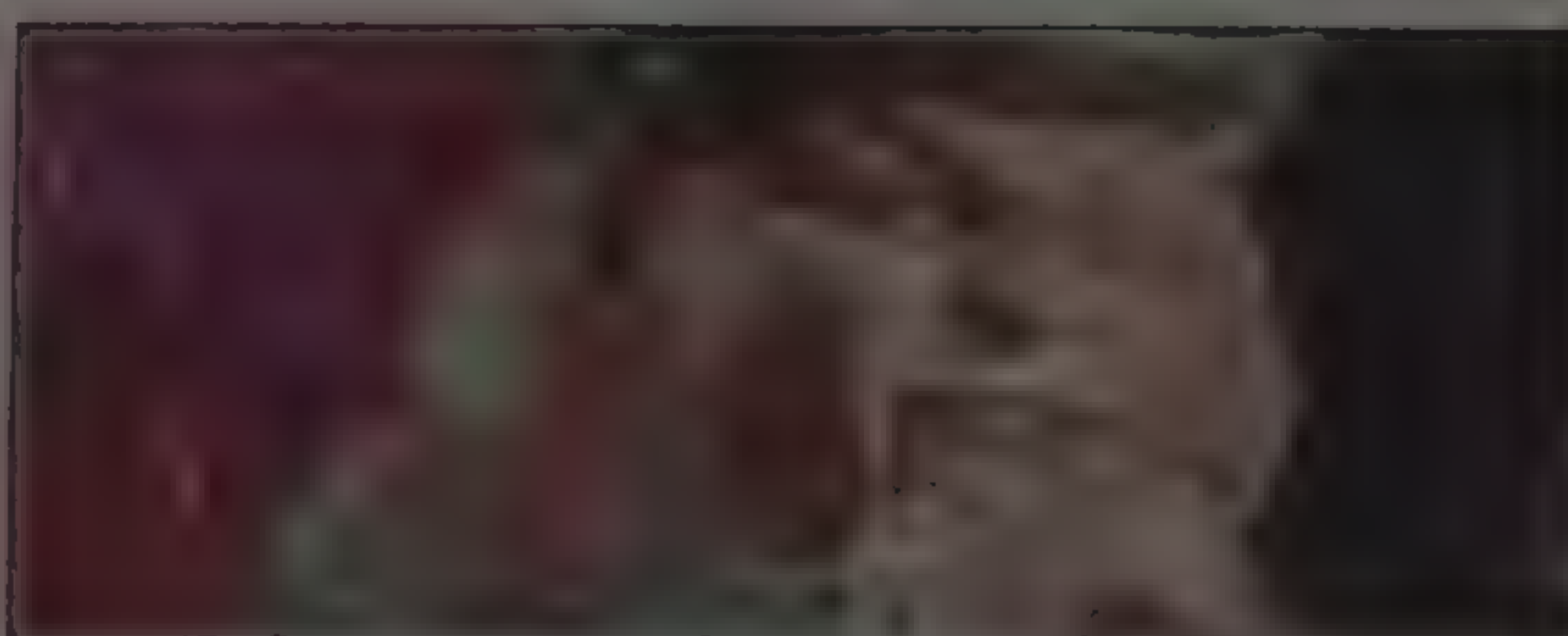
**JAMMERS PUB** Thursday open jam  
7-11pm

**JAMIE'S BAR AND GRILL**  
stage with the Poster Boys  
8pm

**LIVE WIRE BAR AND GRILL** Open  
Stage Thursdays with Gary Thomas

**MEAD HALL** Brother Voodoo Tour  
kick-off party with guests Scrap, Die  
Daily, Chaos and Disorder, all  
ages/no alcohol event, 8pm (door)  
\$10

**NORTH GLENORA HALL** Jam by



PREVUE / FRI, JUL 4 (8 PM) / LIL WAYNE / EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE, \$42 - \$83  
Is it like a rapping laprechaun or something?

Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers

**O'BYRNE'S** Dave Simpson

**REMEDY** The Honeybees, all ages  
event, 7-9pm, donation

**ROCK LOUNGE** 8pm

Edmonton Indy Race For The House  
Band Battle of the Bands, Mourning  
Wood, and Tabasco Cat (3rd band  
tba), 9pm (door), \$5 (door)

### DJS

**BACKROOM WITH A BAR**

Nights: Electro education, dub, trip  
hop, lounge, electro with DJ Lazer

**BUTY BOY LOUNGE** 8pm

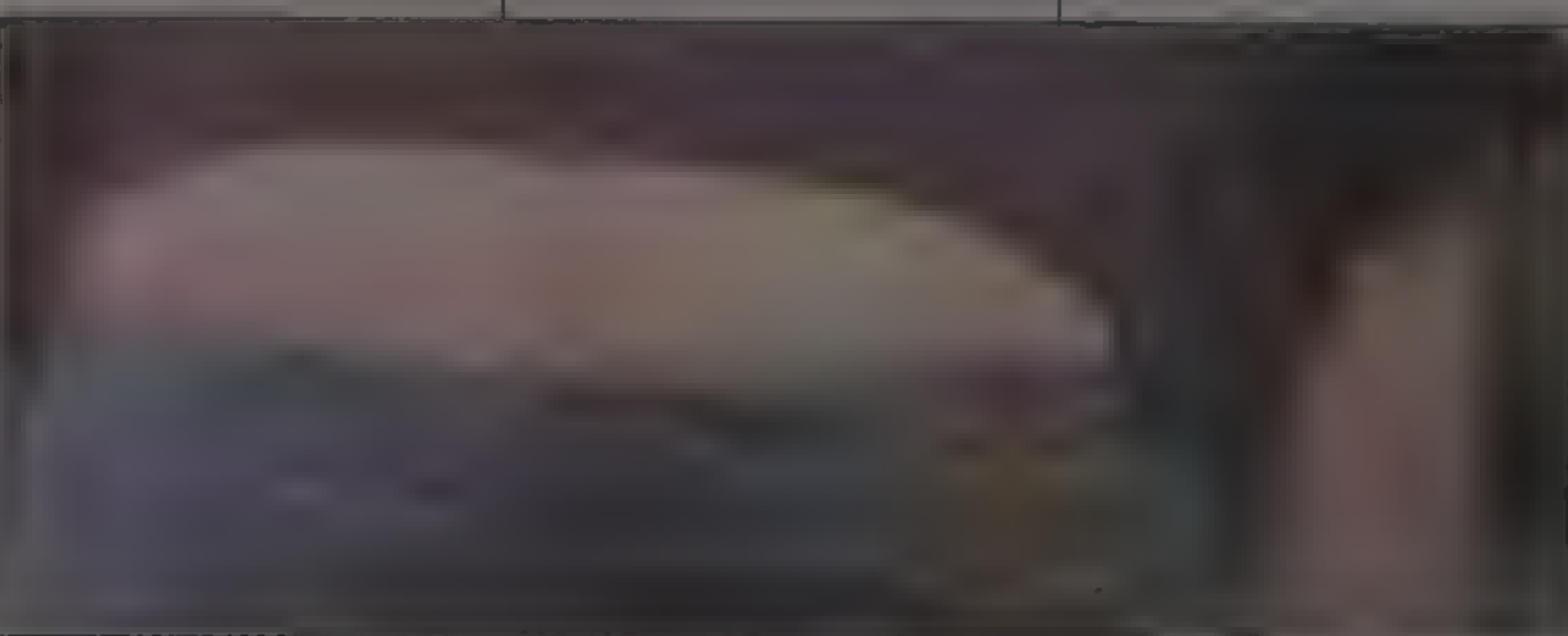
with Mia Fellow, midnight, DJ  
WestCoastBabyDaddy

**FLIPPY MONASTY'S**  
Bingo with DJ S.W.A.G.

**FLURO LOUNGE** Girls Night out

**FUNKY BUDDHA (WHYTE AVE)**  
Requests with DJ Damian

**GAS PUMP** 8pm



PREVUE / MON, JUL 7 (8 PM) / ASHES DIVIDE / STARLITE ROOM, \$20  
I don't really get this band's name. Yes, asses have a divide in them. Wait, what are they called?

**ZENAR'S** Terry Jordan (piano), 7-  
9pm

**BLAST OUT FREEHOUSE** 8pm

Thursdays DJs spin on two levels

**BUDDY'S** Wet underwear contest

40/dance with DJ Christian

**GINGUR SKY** Urban Substance

Thursdays, with Urban Substance  
Sound Crew

**HALO** Thursdays Fo Sho' with Ailton  
DJs DJ Degree, Junior Brown

**KAS BAR** Urban House with DJ  
Mark Stevens, 9pm

**LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** Dish Thursday  
funky house/techno with DJ Colin  
Hargreaves, house/breaks with DJ  
Krazy K, hardstyle, techno with  
Decha, tech track + electro with  
Savage Garret, no minors, 10pm

**NEW CITY** I Love 80s Party with  
Blaze Jay, Nazz Nazz, 10pm, no  
cover, 8-10pm (door)

**NEW CITY** Bingo hosted by  
Nebula and Anarchy Adam, no  
minors, 10pm, no cover

**ON THE ROCKS**  
Thursdays, Dance lessons at 8pm  
Salsa DJ to follow

**OVERTIME BOILER AND TAP-  
ROOM SOUTH** Retro to No-  
rock, R&B, urban and dance w/  
Mike, 9pm-2am, no cover

**PLANET UNDERGROUND**  
Thursdays, breaks, electro h/  
with PJ residents

**RENDEZVOUS PUB** Metal 1  
with org666

**VELVET UNDERGROUND**  
Degree and DJ Generic

## FRI LIVE MUSIC

**AXIS CAFE** 8pm

**BLUE CHAIR CAFE** 8pm

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Sandybena  
the Breakdown

**BOONSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**-GIBBONS** Three Days Grace  
Default, Mobile, Ten Second  
Tupelo Honey, Rides Again, Long W.  
Down, Free Burn, Sittin' Idol, \$52 at  
TicketMaster, www.boonstock.ca

PREVUE  
THU, JUL 3 (8 PM)  
EVALYN PARRY  
WITH DAVID CELIA  
BLUE CHAIR CAFE'S

CAROLYN NIKODYM / carolyn@vuwweekly.com

There was never a moment in Evalyn Parry's life when she thought she'd be a doctor or a lawyer. But then there was never a moment when she really thought she'd be an artist, either.

"To be honest, it's taken me until quite a bit later in my artistic path to kind of go, 'Oh, this is a choice. I could have chosen something else,'" Parry says from her Toronto home. "It was just an evolution for me, out of what my interests were and sort of following my passions and my talents and my interests, that I suddenly was like, 'Oh, this is what I am doing for a career—check it out!'"

Growing up in a creative household probably had something to do with the path she's taken. Both her parents played music and were into theatre, while brother David has found his way into the Arcade Fire and Bell Orchestre folds. But it wasn't until after pursuing theatre in university that Parry discovered stage presence as a musician. The connection with the audience was different and exciting.

"I discovered the musician feeling later," she explains. "I knew the actor feeling, and I knew that I really liked to



perform and I liked to be on stage, but when I discovered the feeling of what it was to be myself on stage—more or less—and be performing my own words, that was more of a lightening bolt for sure. I remember that being like, 'Oh! This is really where my excitement is, expressing my own thoughts in my own voice, in my own words, in front of people.'"

Parry is still very involved in theatre, co-founding the Independent Aunties, whose production of *Breakfast* was nominated for three Dora Mayor Moore awards, but has also made a name for herself as a spoken wordist (heard on

CBC's *Poetry Face Off* and *DNTO*), and that's a lot of her that is showing off in full form on her third release, *Small Mouth*.

Parry's understated and straightforward songs are perfectly complemented by a second disc of her thought-provoking poetry. The fluid delivery of lines contemplating individuality, creativity and gender identity on their own complemented by Parry's theatre background and even more understated musicianship. At least one of the poems—"Bottle This," about bottled water—has found a life of its own, with some educators wanting to use it as a teaching aid.

Perhaps it is because Parry never really thought of pursuing her creative passions as a choice that she's been able to enjoy a career that is multifaceted, diving deeply into both theatre and music. Or perhaps it's a simple matter of logistics.

"It feels like I flip flop between the two quite often, because the theatre projects that I do tend to be fairly involving. When I'm doing a theatre project, I'm not usually doing too much else. Maybe I'll have a gig here or there, but I always find it a bit disjointed," she says. "So the summer is nice because I'm mostly doing music for a few months and I'm allowed to get into a rhythm with that."

Whatever it is, not thinking about it too much seems to be working for Parry, just fine. ▽

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\$2.00 Refreshments & Highballs from 10:30PM - 12:30PM

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DOORS 9PM  
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\$2.00 Refreshments & Highballs from 10:30PM - 12:30PM

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## A social microcosm as the ultimate party

### MUSIC BACKLASH BLUES

BY ANDREW HARRISON  
PHOTOGRAPH BY JONATHAN HARRISON

The slogan for the Glastonbury festival is "Love the farm—Leave no trace." It adorns the wristband you get when you enter the unbelievably spacious farm site and it is plastered on various billboards located in the area. It is a mantra mired in the world-weary youth culture of Britain but it also shines a light on what the world is like without the required avenues to prevent mass litter. The morning after my first day at Glastonbury, the campsite could only be described as a refugee camp. Muddy foliage strewn with trash, hipsters tripping over cans of Carlsberg, thousands of rain-battered tents spread across the expanse of the field: it's hard to imagine people are actually paying to live in these conditions for almost a week. Unlike actual third-world inhabitants, though, we get to bounce after the Verve plays. Bummers aside, the Glastonbury festival is obviously the biggest and best music experience worldwide, contributing as many cool bands as possible to us listeners, the 150,000-plus temporary residents of Pilton, UK.

The Glastonbury festival is facilitated by a farmer named Michael Eavis, a guy who thought to use his many acres of farmland for a killer music festival in 1970. The lay-

out of the festival reminds me of Klondike Days (sorry, Capital Ex) except you camp there, there's no concrete and all the rides are like a stationary Gravitron: all beats, no spin. The festival is globally conscious in less obvious ways than that wristband. There were anti-Olympic posters hanging across the barriers of the farm. The rave zone was called the Dance Village, featuring an Igloo and a Pussy Parlour (equipped with occasionally nude Burlesque dancers and predictably, tons of dudes). The site was full of people repping their country with various flags. These flags were omnipresent, occasionally obscuring most of the crowd's view of shows and getting draped across my face in less wave-able, indoor dance situations. Flags that I recognized included Mexico, Spain, the American Confederate Flag, Russia, a combo of Jamaica and Puerto Rico (possibly related to Reggaeton?) and a happy face. There were no Canadian flags. Get your game up, everybody!

The vast array of music available at this festival in so many different avenues is staggering. Seeing new school disco band Hercules And Love Affair rock the daytime crowd of ravers in the East Dance Stage was a highlight, while Neon Neon's amusing daytime set (featuring Gruff Rhys singing from a director's chair) made me reevaluate how I felt about their album. The best set of the festival for me surprised most people I talked to onsite. Pete Doherty convinced me of his rock star sta-

tus with the confident, professional solo acoustic set he played on Friday night. He showed up late, but fashionably so, rocking a cloak and two fedoras on top of each other (one of which he threw into the crowd upon hitting the stage). His set was made even better by the audience, who sang along to every song and threw beer cans to him (which he would pick up and drink in the middle of songs). There is a sense of magic surrounding Doherty, like he's Lazarus fresh from the tomb, lucky to be alive, let alone performing for thousands of people. A particularly tough rendition of "La Belle Et La Bete" impressed me with its self-referential lyrics (talking about the media saying he burns Kate with his crack pipe) and the punky undertone of this skeletal take on the song.

I couldn't help but think of music festivals like Glastonbury being a microcosm for regular society. There are anti-social people here, there are socially conscious ideals, there are bars and music zones for different kinds of people, yet they are all forced to co-exist for the collective good. It's interesting to hear how fast conflicts develop here and how quickly relationships progress. I think a reality show themed after a group's Glastonbury experience would be one of the few worthwhile television experiments in a while. I know Big Brother was there, watching me piss in the bushes and eat crepe after crepe, but I think it would be cool to see it presented on an experimental basis. ▽

WHERE THEY ARE

## VENUE GUIDE

• **ARTERY** 9535 Jasper Ave, 780-758-9856 • **AXIS CAFE** 10349 Jasper Ave, 990-0031 • **BACK-DRAUGHT PUB** 8307-99 St, 430-9200 • **BACKROOM VODKA BAR** 10324A-82 Ave, upstairs, 436-4418 • **BANK ULTRA LOUNGE** 10765 Jasper Ave 420-9098 • **BAR WILD** 10552 82 Ave, 432-0814 • **BILLY BOB'S LOUNGE** Continental Inn, 16625 Stony Plain Rd, 484-7751 • **BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** 10425-82 Ave, 439-1082 • **BLIND PIG PUB** 32 St, Anne Street, St. Albert, 418-6332 • **BLUE CHAIR CAFE** 9624-76 Ave, 989-2861 • **BLUES ON WHYTE** 10329-82 Ave, 439-3981 • **BOONSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL** Gibbons, www.boonstock.ca • **BOOTS** 10242-106 St, 423-5014 • **BUDDY'S** 11725B Jasper Ave, 488-6636 • **CAFE LEVA** 11053-86 Ave • **CASINO EDMONTON** 7055 Argyll Rd, 463-9467 • **CASINO YELLOWHEAD** 12464-153 St, 424-9467 • **CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB** 2021 Millbourne Rd, West, 462-6565 • **CLIFF'S PUB** 8214-175 St • **CLIFF'S PUB** 8214-175 St, 487-8887 • **COWBOYS** 10102-180 St, 481-8739 • **CROWN AND ANCHOR PUB** 15277 Castle Downs Rd, 113 St, 472-7696 • **DRUID** 11606 Jasper Ave, 454-9928 • **DUKES BAR AND GRILL** 1265-151 Ave • **DUSTER'S PUB** 6402-118 Ave, 474-5554 • **EDDIE SHORTS** 10713-124 St, 453-3663 • **EDMONTON EVENTS CENTRE** WEM Phase III, 489-SHOW • **EMPIRE BALLROOM** WEM Phase 2, upper level, WEM, 486-9494 • **EXPRESSIONZ CAFE** 20125-107 Ave, 471-9125 • **FIDDLER'S ROOST** 8906-99 St • **FILTHY MCNASTY'S** 10511-82 Ave, 916-1557 • **FLUID LOUNGE** 10105-109 St, 780-429-0700 • **FOUR ROOMS** Edmonton Centre, 102 Ave, 426-4767 • **FOX** 10125-109 St, 990-0680 • **FRESH START CAFE** Riverbend Sq, 433-9623 • **FUNKY BUDDHA** (Whyte Ave) 10341-82 Ave, 433-9676 • **GAS PUMP** 10166-114 St, 488-4841 • **GINGUR SKY** 15505-118 Ave, 913-4312/953-3606 • **HALO** 10538 Jasper Ave, 423-HALO • **HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB** 15120 A (basement), Stony Plain Rd, 780-756-6010 • **HOOIGANZ PUB** 10704-124 St, 452-1168 • **HULBERT'S** 7601-115 St, 436-1161 • **IRISH CLUB** 12610-126 Ave • **THE IVORY CLUB** 2940 Calgary Trail South • **JAMMERS PUB** 11948-127 Ave, 451-8779 • **J AND R BAR AND GRILL** 4003-106 St, 436-4403 • **JEFFREY'S CAFE** 9640 142 St, 451-8890 • **JEKYLL AND HYDE RESTAURANT** Riverview Inn, 10209-100 Ave, 426-5381/429-5081 • **JULIAN'S PIANO BAR** Chateau Louis Hotel, 11727 Kingsway Ave, 732-4583 • **KAS BAR** 10444-82 Ave, 433-6768 • **LB'S COUNTRY PUB** 23 Akins Dr, St. Albert • **LEGENDS PUB** 6104-172 St, 481-2786 • **LEVA CAPPUCCINO BAR** 11053-86 Ave, 433-5382 • **LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** 11607 Jasper Ave, 2nd Fl, 447-4495 • **LIVE WIRE BAR AND GRILL** 1107 Knotwood Rd, East • **MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH** 10025-101 St • **MEAD HALL** 10940 166A St • **METRO BILLIARDS** 10250-106 St, 990-0704 • **NEW CITY** 10081 Jasper Ave, 413-4578 • **NIKKI DIAMOND'S** 8130 Gateway Blvd • **O'BYRNE'S** 10616-82 Ave, 414-6766 • **ON THE ROCKS** 11730 Jasper Ave, 482-4767 • **OVERDRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD PUB** 6104 104 St, 439-9485 • **OVERTIME DOWNTOWN** 10304-111 St, 423-1643 • **OVERTIME SOUTH** Whitemud Crossing, 4211-106 St, 485-1717 • **PAWN SHOP** 10551-82 Ave, Upstairs, 432-0814 • **PLANET INDIGO-JASPER AVENUE** 11607 Jasper Ave • **PLANET INDIGO-ST. ALBERT** 812 Liberton Dr, St. Albert • **PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL** 10860 57 Ave, 474-5270 • **POLISH HALL** 10960-104 St • **RED STAR** 10538 Jasper Ave, 428-0825 • **RENDEZVOUS PUB** 10102-149 St, 780-444-1822 • **ROBERTSON WESLEY UNITED CHURCH** 10209-123 St • **ROCK PUB AND GRILL** 570 St Albert Tr, St. Albert, 458-5571 • **ROSEBOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE** 10111-117 St, 482-5253 • **ROSSDALE COMMUNITY HALL/LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL** 10135-96 Ave • **SAPPHIRE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE** 10416-82 Ave, 437-0231/710-1625 • **SAVOY** 10401-82 Ave, 438-0373 • **SIDELINERS PUB** 11018-127 St, 453-6006 • **SECOND CUP** 12336-124 St, 710-451-7574 • **SPORTSWORLD** 13710-104 St • **STARLITE ROOM** 10030-102 St, 428-1099 • **STEEPS TEA LOUNGE-COLLEGE PLAZA** 11116-82 Ave, 486-8105 • **STEEPS-OLD GLENORA** 12411 Stony Plain Rd • **STOLLI'S** 2nd Fl, 10368-82 Ave, 437-2293 • **STONEHOUSE PUB** 11012 Jasper Ave, 420-0448 • **STRATHERN PUB** 9514 87 St, 465-5478 • **TAPHOUSE** 9020 McKenny Ave, St. Albert, 458-0360 • **TOUCH OF CLASS** Chateau Louis Hotel, 11727 Kingsway, 452-7770 • **URBAN FRAT** 10220-103 St, 906-7939 • **URBAN LOUNGE** 10544-82 Ave, 437-7699 • **VELVET UNDERGROUND** 10030-102 St, 428-1099 • **WILD WEST SALOON** 12912-50 St, 476-3388 • **WUNDERBAR** 8120-101 St, 436-2286 • **Y AFTERHOURS** 10028-102 St, 994-3256 • **YESTERDAYS PUB** 112, 205 Carnegie Dr, St. Albert, 459-0295 • **ZENARI'S** 10180-101 St, 423-5409

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**CHATEAU LOUIS** Dwayne Cannon (blues, '50s/'60s, roots and originals)

**CASINO EDMONTON** Pam Proud (pop/rock)

**CASINO YELLOWHEAD** Robin Kelly (tribute band)

**CENTURY CASINO** Blue Oyster Cult, 7pm, \$44.95 at TicketMaster

**FOUR ROOMS** All-time Top 40 hits, 8pm, \$5

**FRESH START** (The Musical) Scott Cook Duo, 6-8pm, \$5

**HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB** Beja Fior, 8pm-3am, \$10

**HULBERT'S** Mike Sadava, 8pm, \$10 (door)

**RUSH CLUB** Jam session, 8pm, no cover

**JEFFREY'S CAFÉ** Phil Z (Latin guitar), 8-10pm, \$10

**MEAD HALL** Helicon tour '08, KJB Agents, Looking East, no minors, 8pm (door), \$10

**ON THE ROCKS** Mourning Wood

**RENDEZVOUS PUB** Wayne Morris

**SIDELINER'S PUB** Slowburn, 9pm-1am

**STARLITE ROOM** Parlor Mob guests, 8pm, \$13 at TicketMaster, Unionevents.com, Blackbyrd, Megatunes, Listen

**THE OLD BURGESS** Harpmon the Blues, 8:30pm, no cover

**TEMPLE TG** Psydays, Techno Hippy Crew, 9pm

**URBAN LOUNGE** Bad Judgement, 9pm (door), \$5 (door)

**VELVET UNDERGROUND** V. 1, 9pm, the Sork 2, Inkwell, Forafee (dances and Bisco), Cameron Sound, Tart, \$10 (door)

**ZELARY'S** Terry Jordan (piano), 5-7pm

## DJS

**SUPERSONIC YOUNG BASH** Friday: Funky breaks, funky house, funky tunes with Philie and friends

**THE CITY LOUNGE** Fridays: 91.7 The Bounce, Nestor Delano, Luke Morrison

**BAR-B-BAR** DJ James, no cover

**BAR WILD** Bar Wild Fridays

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Friday DJs spin Wooftop and Main Floor Eclectic jams with Neville-indie, soul, motown, new wave, electro

**BOOTS** Retro Disco, retro dance

**BUDDY'S** We made 'em famous! DJ Eddy Toorflash, come early to avoid lineup, no cover before 10pm

**DELTA UNDERGROUND** 70s progressive rock, disco, and electronic indie with Joel Rebah

**EMPIRE BALLROOM** Rock, hip hop, house, mash up, no minors

**ESMERALDA'S** Ezies Freakin Frenzy Fridays: Playing the best in country

**FUNKY BUDDHA (WHYTE AVE)** Top tracks, rock, retro with DJ Damian

**GAS PUMP** Top 40/dance with DJ Christian

**HALO** Mod Club, indie rock, new wave, Brit pop, and '60s soul with DJ Blue Jay, DJ Travy D, no cover before 10pm, \$5 (after 10pm)

**LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** Hypnotic Friday Breakbeat, house, progressive and electro with Groovy Cuvy, DJ Fuuze

**NEW CITY SUBURBS** Bitch! Fridays: electro, indie alternative, techno with DJs Danish, Squirrelly B, guests, no minors, 9pm (door)

**NEW CITY** Friday Night Freak Out rockandroll/punkrock/anything/in dy with DJs Jebus and Anarchy Adam from CJSR's Your Weekly AA Meeting! G-Whiz

**OVERTIME BOILER AND TAPROOM** SOUTH Retro to New classic rock R&B, urban and dance with DJ Mikee 9pm-2am, no cover

**RED STAR** Mavin' on Up Fridays: indie rock, funk, soul, hip hop with DJ Gatto DJ Mega Wattson

**ROUGE LOUNGE** NYC Nights: Salsamerengue-bachata-house-reggaeton-urban-old school with DJ Spice

**SAPPHIRE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE** Deep House with Friday resident DJ Luke Morrison

**SPORTS WORLD ONLINE AND ROLLER SKATING DISCO** Top 40 request with a mix of retro and disco, 7pm-12midnight

**STOLLI'S** Top 40, R&B, house with Yessie's DJ

**STONEHOUSE PUB** Top 40 with DJ Tyson

**TEMPLE TG** Psydays: Every 2nd Fri PsyTrance, Beats and the dance-y stuff with the Techno Hippy Crew, guests

**URBAN FRAT** Funktion Fridays

**WUNDERBAR** Fridays with the Pony Girls, DJ Avander and DJ Tonia; no cover

**Y AFTERHOURS** Foundation Fridays

# SAT LIVE MUSIC

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Hair of the Dog Maniagun, live acoustic music every Saturday afternoon, 4-6pm, no cover

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Sandybone and the Breakdown, Saturday Afternoon jam hosted by Simon Bennett

**BOONSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL** —GIBBONS— Alexsonfire, Sloan, State of Shock, iScarlett, Gob, Econoline Crush, Daniel Wesley, Sick City, Radioforhelp, Light, Keep 6, Aerocar Model Four, Band Wars Winner, \$39 (weekend pass/tickets at TicketMaster, \$50 (camping pass)

**CARROT** Open mic Saturdays: 7:30-10pm

**CASINO EDMONTON** Pam Proud (pop/rock)

**CASINO YELLOWHEAD** Robin Kelly (tribute band)

**CHATEAU LOUIS** Dwayne Cannon (blues, '50s/'60s, roots and originals)

**COWBOYS** Ferry Corsten, 8pm, \$30 at TicketMaster

**DAVID TILLYE SALADIN** (jazz/blues singer), \$10

**FESTIVAL PLACE** Very Vocal Showcase, 6pm, tickets at TicketMaster

**FILTHY McNASTY'S** Open stage Saturdays hosted by The Love Show and guests, 1pm (door), 2-6pm (show)

**FOUR ROOMS** Althea Cunningham, 9pm, \$5

**HULBERT'S** Brett Miles, 8pm, \$10 (door)

**JAMMERS PUB** Saturday open jam, 3-7:30pm, country/rock band 9pm-2am

**JEFFREY'S CAFÉ** Elsie Osbourne (jazz/blues singer), \$10

**KILROY'S PUB-LEGAL** Slowburn, 10pm-2am

**MEAD HALL** Through the Messengers, Ghosts and Glass, Sally Hardesty, Suffer the Children, no minors, 8pm (door), \$10

**ON THE ROCKS** Mourning Wood

**RENDZVOUS PUB** The Dog Face Misssssssssmodel, 509 bombs

**ROCK PUB AND GRILL** Main Floor jam/open stage 4-8pm

**STARLITE ROOM** Kreepers Hotrod Rumble Afterparty and Rockabilly Hell of Fame, 8pm

**STRATHERN PUB** Open stage 2nd Sat of each month, 5-9pm, followed by

**TAPHOUSE** Molson open stage jam with The Taphouse Rockers hosted by Carmen Cook, 4pm-9pm

**TEMPLE** Oh Snap! Oh Snap! with Degree, All Out DJs, 9pm

**URBAN LOUNGE** Bad Judgement, 9pm (door), \$5 (door)

**VELVET UNDERGROUND** The Jazz Grind Experiment

**X-WRECKS** Open stage Saturdays gear supplied, everyone welcome

## DJS

**EMERALDA'S** Super Parties: Every Sat a different theme

**FLUID LOUNGE** Saturdays Gone Gold Mash-Up with Harman B and DJ Kweke

**FUNKY BUDDHA (WHYTE AVE)** Top tracks, rock, retro with DJ Damian

**GINGUR SKY** Soulout Saturdays

**HALO** For Those Who Know: house every Sat with DJ Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, Nestor Delano, An Rhodes

**LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** Sizzle Saturday: DJ Groovy Cuvy and guests

**NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE** Saturdays real alternative, classics, punk with DJ Jazz Nomad; no cover

**NEW CITY SUBURBS** Saturday Sucks electro, industrial, alt and indie, rock with DJs Greg Gory and Blue Jay, \$5

**PLANET INDIA (JASPER AVENUE)** Suggestive Saturdays: breaks electro house with PJ residents

**RED STAR** Saturdays indie rock, hip

hop, and electro with DJ Hot Philly and guests

**RENDEZVOUS** Screen al metal night

**SPORTSWORLD ROLLERSKATING DISCO** Sportsworld inline and Roller Skating Disco. Top 40 request with a mix of retro and disco: 1-5pm and 7pm-12midnight

**STOLLI'S ON WHYTE** Top 40, R&B, house with People's DJ

**TEMPLE** Oh Snap! Every Saturday with Degree and Allout DJs with weekly guests, 9pm

**WUNDERBAR** (Lounge) DJ and band

**Y AFTERHOURS** Release Saturday

**HULBERT'S** Songwriter's Stage, 7pm; no cover

**O'BRYNE'S** Sunday night open stage (pop/rock)

**ON THE ROCKS** King Muskafa Sundays with DJ Mike, Big Rock Untapped singer/songwriter Series

**OSCAR'S PUB** Open stage Sundays hosted by Chris Wyniers of Captain Tractor, 8-11pm

**ROSSDALE COMMUNITY HALL/ATL FLOWER SCHOOL** Flower Open Stage/10th Anniversary Party, 3-11pm

**SECOND CUP** Tom Meed (classical guitar), 2-4pm

**OVERTIME BOILER** Sunday Industry Night: Requests with DJ Bo

**URBAN FRAT** Urban Ladies Night Sundays

**WUNDERBAR** Sundays DJ Gallitica and XS guests, no cover

# MON LIVE MUSIC

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Shemekia Copeland, \$15 (adv), \$20 (door), tickets at TicketMaster

**DRUID (JASPER AVENUE)** Open stage with Chris Wyniers

**O'BRYNE'S** Tuesday night Celtic jam with Shannon Johnson

**EVER CREE CASINO** Idol, 8pm; tickets at TicketMaster

**SECOND CUP** Open mic every Tue 7-9pm

**STARLITE ROOM** Eric's Trp, Dog Day, Electricity For Everybody, 8pm; tickets at Blackbyrd, Megatunes, Listen, TicketMaster

**TAPHOUSE** Molson Open Stage Jam with Simon Bennett, 8pm-midnight

## CLASSICAL

**WINSPEAR CENTRE** The Edmonton Concert Hall Foundation Oavis Concert Organ performance, noon, free, donations to the ECHF gratefully accepted

## DJS

**BAR WILD** Bar Gone Wild Mondays Service Industry Night, no minors, 9pm-1am

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Eclectic Nonsense with Confederacy of Duncas Dad Rock, TJ Hookah and Rear Admiral Saunders, Wooftop DJ Idria

**BUDDY'S NIGHTCLUB** Rudy Electro latest and greatest in House Progressive and Trip Hop, 12am-2:30am, interested guest DJs inquire at kelly@mccherry.com, karaoke with Tizzy amateur strip contest, 9pm-12am

**IVORY CLUB** Open mic Mondays

# TUE LIVE MUSIC

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Shemekia Copeland, \$15 (adv), \$20 (door), tickets at TicketMaster

**DRUID (JASPER AVENUE)** Open stage with Chris Wyniers

**O'BRYNE'S** Tuesday night Celtic jam with Shannon Johnson

**EVER CREE CASINO** Idol, 8pm; tickets at TicketMaster

**SECOND CUP** Open mic every Tue 7-9pm

**STARLITE ROOM** Eric's Trp, Dog Day, Electricity For Everybody, 8pm; tickets at Blackbyrd, Megatunes, Listen, TicketMaster

**TAPHOUSE** Molson Open Stage Jam with Simon Bennett, 8pm-midnight

**SAPPHIRE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE** Tapas Tuesday pop beats with DJ Kevin Viny

**SPORTSWORLD ONLINE AND ROLLER SKATING DISCO** Top 40 request with a mix of retro and disco, 7pm-12midnight

# WED LIVE MUSIC

**BLUES ON WHYTE** Shemekia Copeland, \$15 (adv), \$20 (door), tickets at TicketMaster

**EDDIE SHORTS** Wednesday blues with Dr. Blues, 8-10pm

**FESTIVAL PLACE** Come On In Our Kitchen Patio Series: Doug Andrews, The Circus In Flames (country), 7:30pm, \$5

**HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB** Open Mic, Ido Vanderlean and friends every W, 7:30pm

**HOOIGANZ PUB** Open stage Wednesdays hosted by Rock 'n' Re Kenny

**LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** Open mic

**NEW CITY** Five Points Quintet (jazz/funk), no minors, donation

**O'BRYNE'S** Soul Beat Revival

**PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL** Acoustic Bluegrass jam presented by the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society every Wednesday evening

**ROCK PUB AND GRILL** Acoustic jam, open stage, 9pm-1am

**STEEPS TEA LOUNGE** Open mic (acoustic) every Wed

**URBAN LOUNGE** September Stone, open stage, and guests, 9pm (door), \$5 (door)

**VELVET UNDERGROUND** V. 1, Wednesdays: Grand Angora, The National Parks and Curtis Santiago, 8pm

## DJS

**SUPERSONIC YOUNG BASH** Wednesdays, Soulful Deep House with Nic-E and Smoov

**BANK ULTRA LOUNGE** Wednesday Nights with DJ Harley

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Glitter Gulch Wednesdays: Best Ride, Worst Wrecks... no cover; roots music every Wednesday with DJ Buster friendly; Live music once a month Wooftop RetroActive Radio alternates '80s/'90s, post punk, new wave, garage, Brit, mod, rock 'n' Roll with U Cool Joe

**BUDDY'S** Hump day with DJ Sexton Sean

**FLUID LOUNGE** Wednesdays Rock This

**FOX** Wind-up Wednesdays: R&B, hip-hop, reggae, old skool, reggaeton with InVinceable, Touch It, weekly guest DJs

**LEGENDS PUB** Hip hop/R&B with DJ Spincycle

**NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE** Wednesday: no minors; no cover

**ROCK PUB AND GRILL** Metal every Wednesday

**RED STAR** Guest DJs every Wednesday

**STARLITE ROOM** Wild Style Wednesdays: Hip Hop 9pm

**STOLLI'S** Beatparty Wednesdays: House, progressive and electronica with Rudy Electro, DJ Rystar, Space Age and weekly guests, 9pm-2am; www.beatparty.net

**WUNDERBAR** Wednesdays with new DJ; no cover

**Y AFTERHOURS** Y Not Wednesday

# SUN LIVE MUSIC

**AVONMORE HALL** A.N.S. from Texas, High Jinks, Thrashin' Fibrosis, Tarantula, Cope, all ages event, 8pm

**BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ** Rosette Guitars

**EDDIE SHORTS** Live music open stage jam, 7pm, no cover

## DJS

**BACKSTAGE TAP AND GRILL** Industry Night: with Atomic Improv, Jamecki and DJ Tim

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Sunday Afternoons, Phil, 2-7pm, Main Floor Got To Give It Up: Funk, Soul, Motown, Disco with DJ Red Dawn

**BUDDY'S NIGHTCLUB** Latest and greatest in House, Progressive and Trip-Hop, Rudy Electro, 10pm-2:30am; guest DJs inquire at kelly@mccherry.com

music and comedy, 8pm

**STARLITE ROOM** Mark Knopfler, guests, 7:30pm, \$121 and \$81 at TicketMaster

**PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL** Acoustic instrumental old time fiddle jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society, 7pm

**ROCK PUB AND GRILL** Legendary Rose Bowl Monday Jam hosted by Sherry-Lee Wisor/Mike McDonald (alternating), 9pm-12am

**STARLITE ROOM** Ashes Divide, 8pm, tickets at TicketMaster

## DJS

**BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE** Mark Knopfler, CJSR's Eddie Lunchpail; Wooftop, U on Metal Mondays: '80s metal with DJ Sammi Kerr; no minors, no cover

**BUDDY'S** Free pool and toume; Arrowchaser, 9pm

**ESMERALDA'S** Retro every Tuesday cover with student ID

**FUNKY BUDDHA (WHYTE AVE)** and Salsa music, dance lessons 8-10pm

**GINGUR SKY** Bashment Tuesdays

**RED STAR** Tuesdays: Experimental Indie Rock, Hip Hop, Electro with DJ Hot Philly





# Eric's Trip is on a whole new journey

CAROLYN NIKODYM / carolyn@vuweekly.com

At the start of any journey, you never really know where you'll end up. Even if you have the destination squarely in your sights.

When New Brunswick's **Eric's Trip** split back in the '90s, with each of its members going on to pursue their own journeys, none of them could have known that the band would be thinking of laying down new tracks over a decade later. The band, after all, thought breaking up was going to be forever.

Being on the outside looking in, it's easy to see that it has been a long time coming, though. The band—Julie Doiron, Rick White, Chris Thompson and Mark Gaudet—did a reunion tour back in 2001, but then didn't play as a band again until 2006 for Sackville's inaugural Sappy Fest. The Eastern Canadian 10-date tour **Eric's Trip** did last year, however, seems to have

"That was the closest we came to being an active band, that it wasn't just a reunion anymore," Doiron explains from her Sackville home. "It was kind of like, at this point, we had gotten back together to play a few

PREVIEW

TUE, JUL 8 (8 PM)  
**ERIC'S TRIP**  
WITH DOG DAY, ELECTRICITY 4 EVERYONE  
STARLITE ROOM, \$18

times, and we had fun and then we just kept it open to other stuff that wasn't like, 'OK, see you later, guys. That was fun.' It was like, 'See you guys in the spring. We'll do some more shows.' It's cool.

"I think it's safe to say that we're an actual band again," she adds. "It's not just a reunion, I guess is what I mean. We're having a lot of fun just being, existing and playing together."

IF **ERIC'S TRIP** hadn't been such a seminal rock band—it was the first Canadian band to be signed to Sub Pop—and if its members hadn't each gone on to successful music careers outside of the band, it might be easy to see the whole reuniting thing a little bit cynically. But besides having fun playing together again, the band is still able to draw fervent audiences and accolades on message boards.

"I'm constantly surprised by that," Doiron laughs. "When we were a band

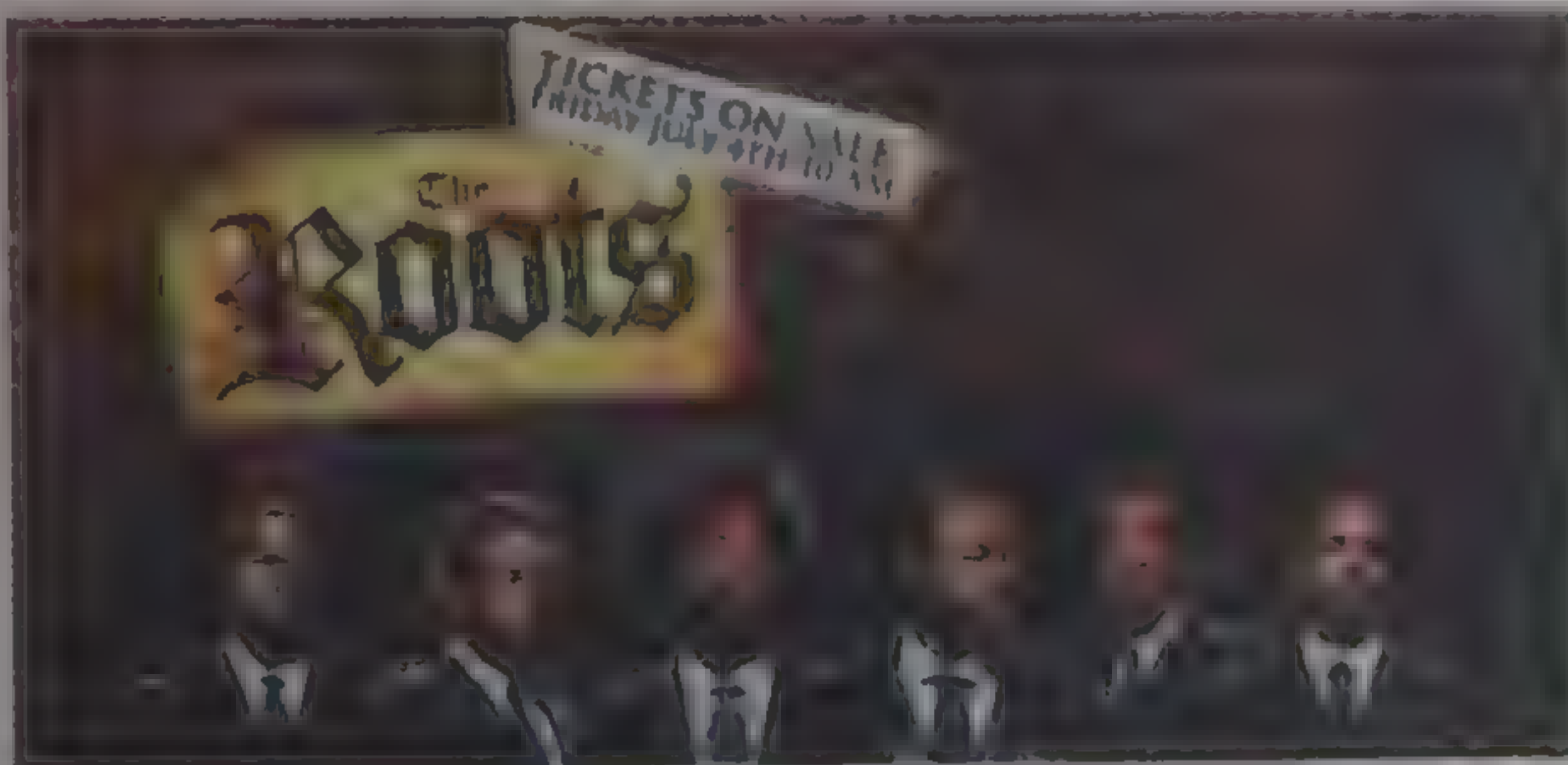
and touring in the past, we knew ... it had sort of built up and we knew that we were going to have people at the shows. Taking a lot of time off, when you decide to actually do it again, you're not sure what to expect, and so it's a really nice relief when people actually do come. Like those first couple of reunion shows, I mean, we didn't know what to expect, but the response was really wonderful. It's really amazing, the level of enthusiasm that is being experienced."

Fans will certainly be keen to hear what the band comes up with after getting together later this summer to record. So is Doiron.

"I think the way we sound now is more like the last album, like the *Purple Blue* album," Doiron says. "That would be the logical ... I don't know what it'll sound like! I won't know until I actually hear it."

"I imagine we'll sound like the same band, only we seem to be a lot better at playing now," she adds. "So it might be more technically better than it was in the past."

This is **Eric's Trip**. Like the band, we'll likely enjoy the ride. Destinations be damned. ▽



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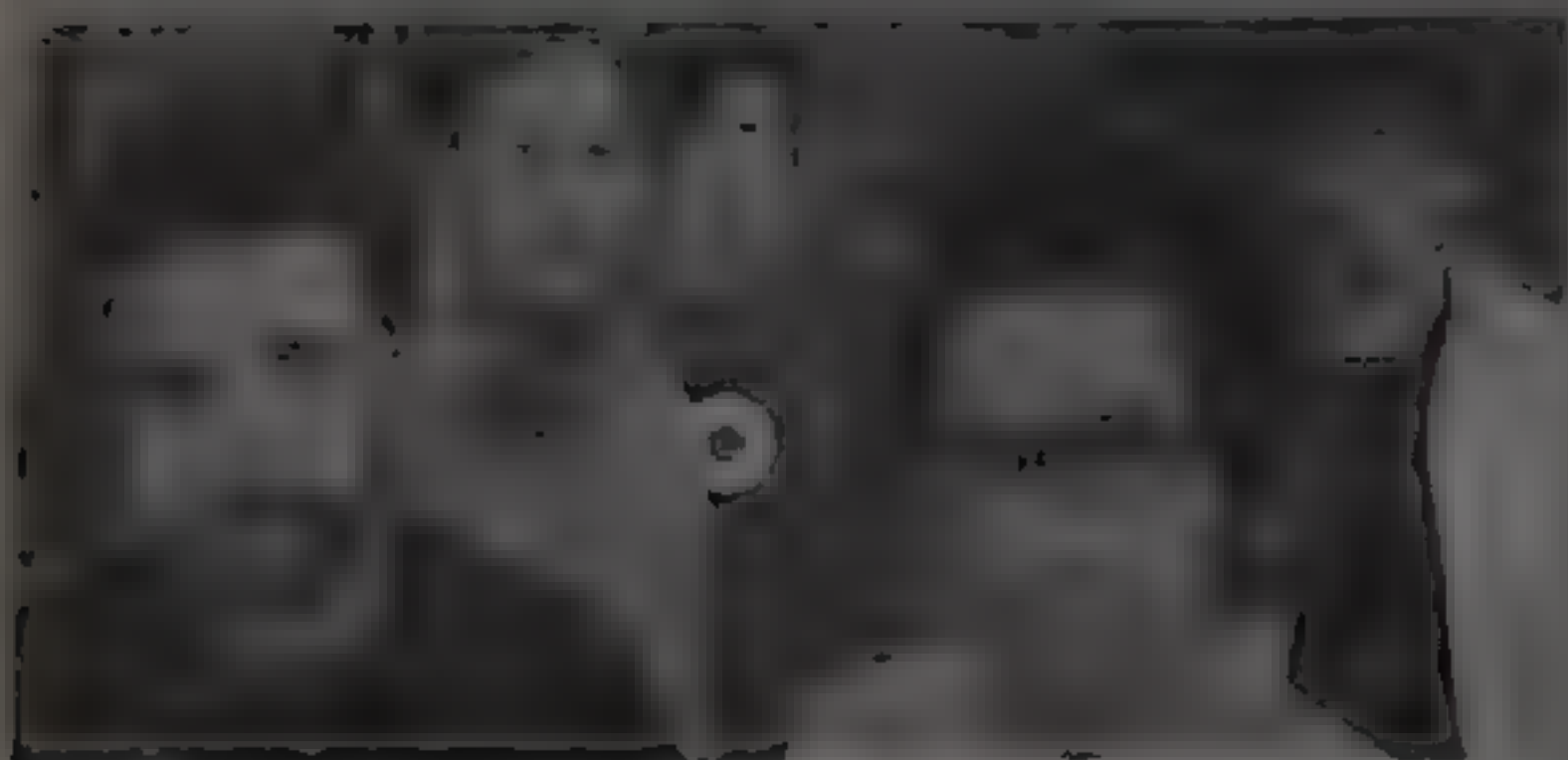
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# THE PARLOR MOB

FRIDAY JULY 4  
STARLITE ROOM

DOORS 8 PM - 18+ ID REQ'D  
TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD, MEGATUNES



## MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK

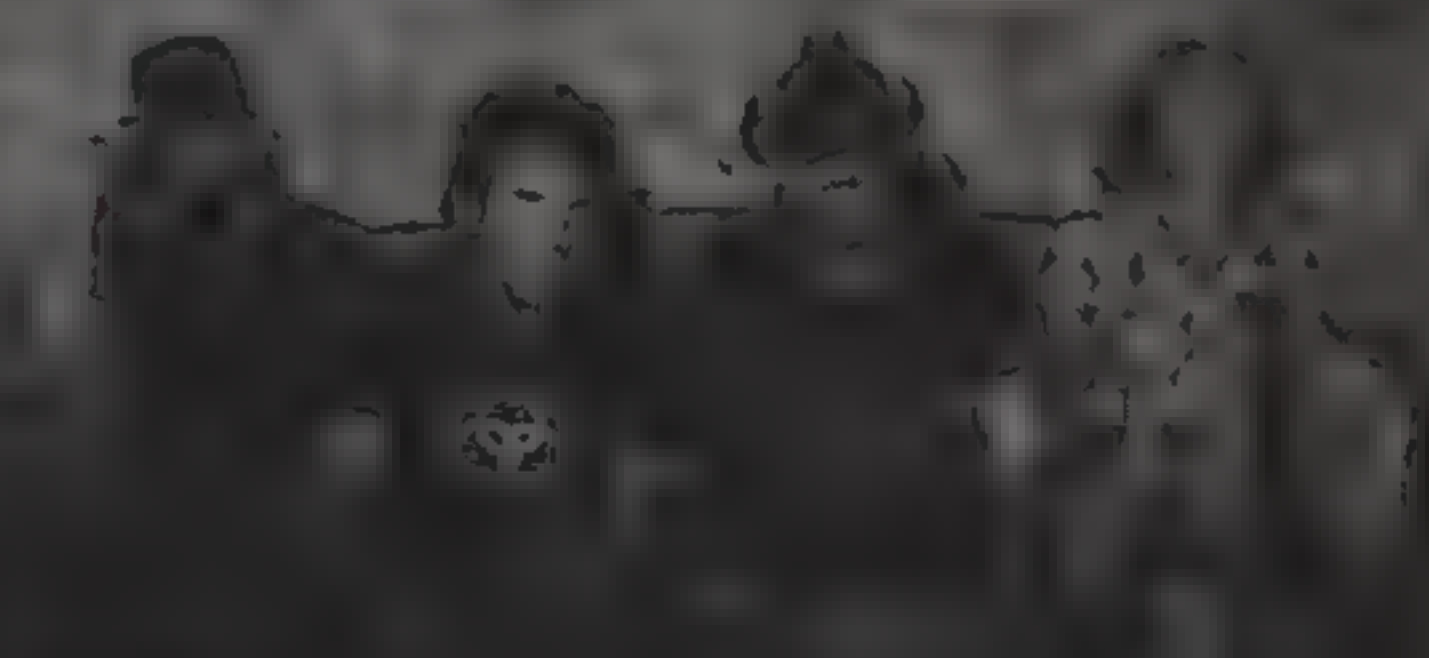
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JULY 19  
STARLITE ROOM

EARLY SHOW - DOORS 6 PM - ALL AGES  
TICKETS ALSO AT MEGATUNES,  
BLACKBYRD, FS (WEM)



## SUPERSUCKERS



WITH GUESTS  
THE GET DOWN

SATURDAY JULY 26  
STARLITE ROOM

DOORS 7 PM - 18+ ID REQ'D  
TIX ALSO AT MEGATUNES,  
BLACKBYRD, FREECLOUD



## TESTAMENT

JULY 27 - SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE

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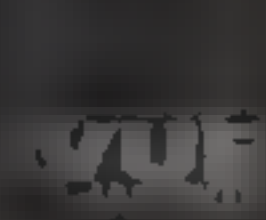
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AUGUST 2 • STARLITE ROOM

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TIX ALSO AT MEGATUNES, BLACKBYRD, FS (WEM) & FREECLOUD



JULY 25 • STARLITE ROOM

DOORS 8 PM • 18+ ID REQ'D • TICKETS ALSO AT MEGATUNES,  
BLACKBYRD, FS (WEM) & FREECLOUD

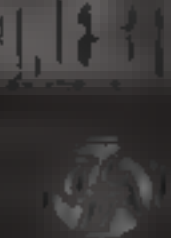
VUE  
WEEKLY



AUGUST 29 - DINWOODIE LOUNGE

U OF A SUB - DOORS 7:00 PM - ALL AGES

TICKETS ALSO AT MEGATUNES, BLACKBYRD, FS (WEM) & FREECLOUD



SUMMER SLAUGHTER TOUR w/NECROPHAGIST & DYING FETUS - STARLITE ROOM - FRIDAY AUGUST 22 // ANTI FLAG - STARLITE ROOM - SEPT 3  
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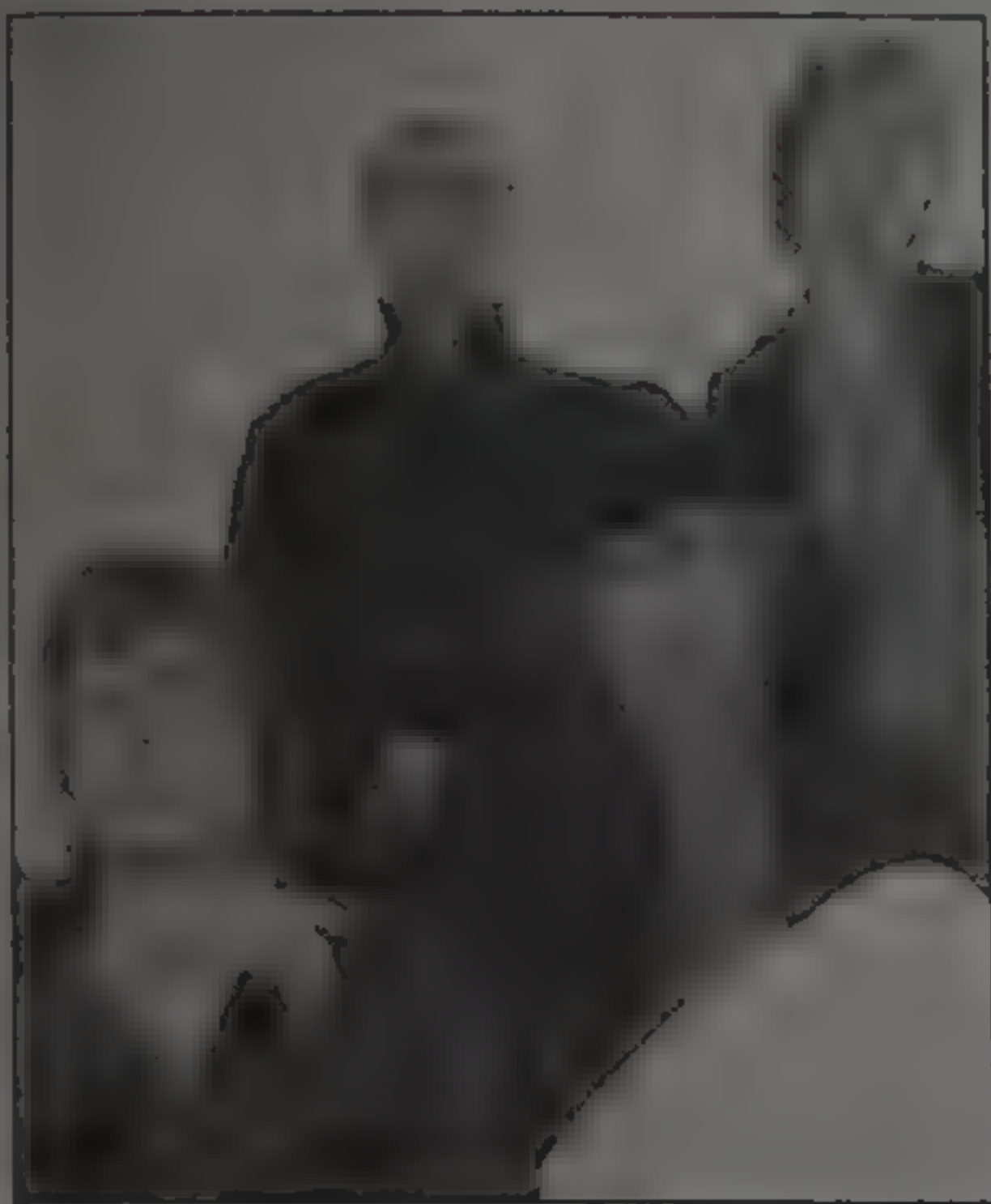
ALSO AVAILABLE ON [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca) 780-451-8000



# Sloan keeps it real

BY BRIAN BIRTLES / brian@vuwweekly.com

It would be impossible to name a band as big as Sloan that is anywhere near as committed to the DIY ethic as Halifax's favourite sons are. Unlike many other bands who try to shed responsibility as they get bigger, the members of Sloan embrace it, and their fingerprints are all over everything the band does, including recording their albums, releasing them, cover artwork and even



"There's a little bit of a control freak in myself and in Chris, I think, but I'm interested in it—I like working on album artwork, I like making videos, I like recording, I like having control over it because I don't want anyone telling me what to do. We're happy to do everything ourselves, it's the only way you can have some sort of control or pride in your work, I think," explains guitarist Jay Ferguson from his home in Toronto. "Sometimes it gets sort of tiring but I like it, I can't think of a better

job. I just don't want to look back at bad decisions—I'd rather see something that I made a bad decision about instead of, 'Oh, we entrusted that decision with somebody else and look at the mess it made.'"

Except for 2003's *Action Pact*, the band's last few albums—including its newest one, *Parallel Play*—have been recorded in the studio the group uses for rehearsing and not in a fancy-pants recording studio. As Ferguson explains, doing it that way lets the band control the costs of the recording process which allows it to create the best possible record it can without the stress that can accompany the recording studio experience.

"There's more time spent trying to get a cool sound, like for example there's a song called 'Ali I am is All You're Not' on the record and the guitar was basically recorded into an old cassette player just to get a sound that we'd read about which was the

PREVIEW

SAT. JUL 5 (9:15 PM)  
**SLOAN**  
WITH ALEXISONFIRE, GOR AND MANY MORE  
BOONSTOCK FESTIVAL (GIBBONS, AB), \$65-\$99

way Keith Richards recorded the guitar for 'Street Fighting Man' on *Beggars Banquet*. So we tried it and it worked out and it was good. Sometimes if you're in a studio where you're spending one or two hundred dollars an hour it's a little more nerve racking trying experiments like that," he says. "We would definitely try more sonic experiments in our own practice space and I think that makes for better records when you have an idea and the time to flesh it out."

**ALTHOUGH SLOAN** won't be hitting the city of Edmonton this summer—you'll have to head out to Boonstock Festival in Gibbons to see them this time around—Ferguson and his band mates are planning to come back and play the country again in the fall.

"We're going to do just festival shows in the summer and then a proper Canadian tour in the fall. It's hard to tour in the summer, because schools are out, there's not as many people around, people are on vacation," he says. "Outdoor festival-y shows are definitely the ones to play in the summer." ▽

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EDEN MUNRO / eden@vancouverweekly.com

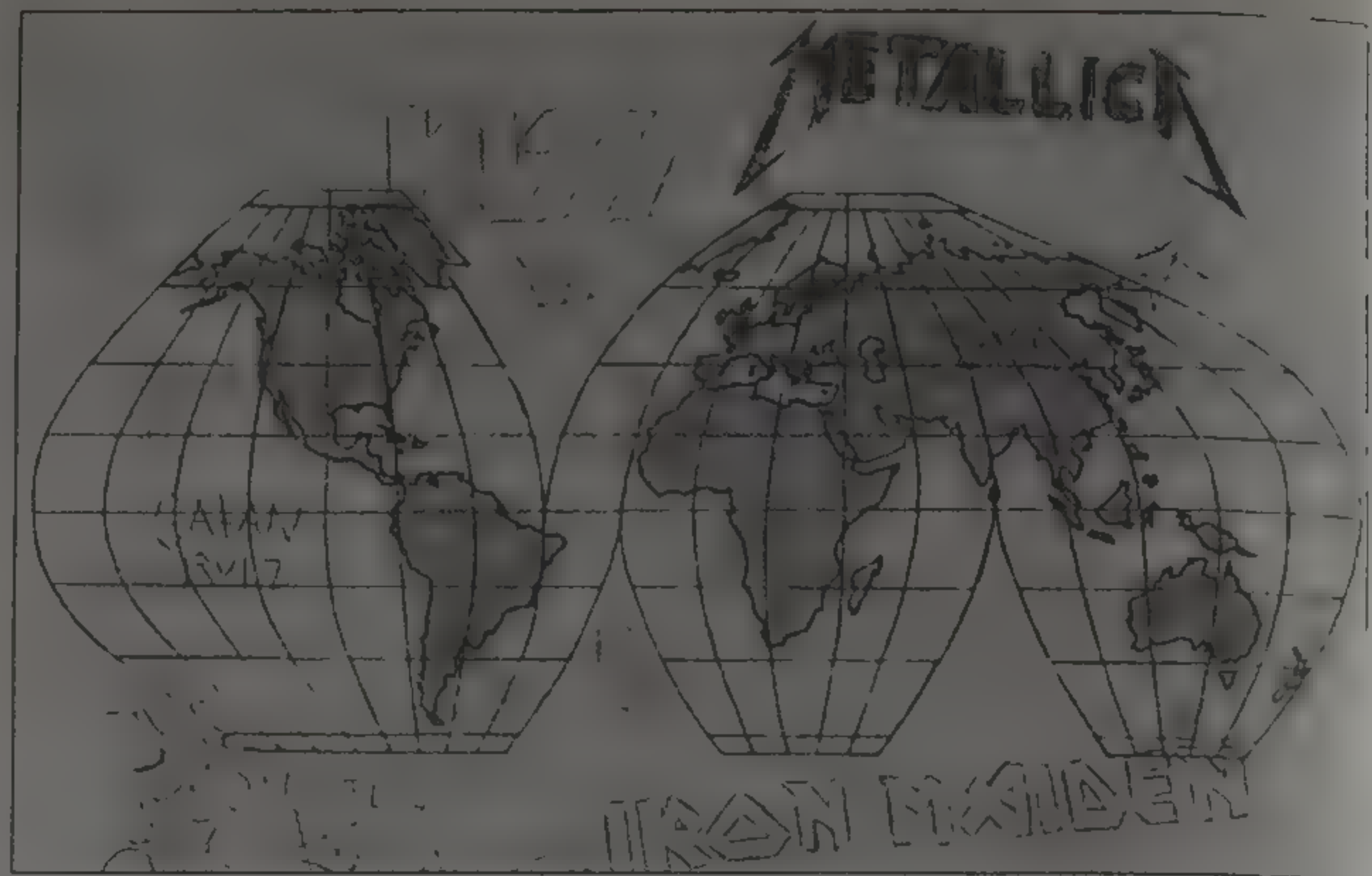
When it comes to the portrayal of heavy metal in the media there's a definite tendency to approach both the music and the artists from a less than favourable angle, casting a negative light on metal and its fans. When metal makes the news, there is often a dark seriousness as suggestions arise that the music has been the cause of both murders and suicides; on film—in documentaries like Penelope Sheeris's *The Decline of Western Civilization Part II: The Metal Years* and fiction movies like Rob Reiner's *This is Spinal Tap* and Spheeris's *Wayne's World*—the music is often fodder for jokes aplenty. But when filmmakers Sam Dunn and Scot McFadyen set out to make *Metal: A Headbanger's Journey*, they broached the subject with all seriousness, digging below the surface to examine the culture that is shared by metal fans around the world.

It turns out that *A Headbanger's Journey* was only the beginning for Dunn and McFadyen, though. Following the success of that film, which acted as something of an overview of metal culture, serving as an introduction to the unfamiliar and offering plenty of impressive footage with some of the genre's greats for the already converted, the filmmakers began receiving emails from around the world, triggering the idea that would become the duo's next documentary, *Global Metal*.

"A lot of people said, 'Oh, you could make a movie for each metal sub-genre in the first film, and Sam and I, after the film was released, we kind of felt we didn't want to make a sequel,'" McFadyen explains. "The first film was more of an introduction to metal—like *Metal 101*—and a lot of metal fans maybe already knew that stuff and we wanted to go somewhere where we kind of knew nothing about. "And then we kept getting emails from fans around the world saying, 'We loved the film but you've got to check out the metal scene in our country,'" he continues. "So that was sort of the inspiration, like let's look at globalization and how heavy metal is a subculture from the West that has spread around the world."

"There are two things we tried to do with this documentary," adds Dunn. "One was show metal in a new light, and then secondly show certain cultures in a new light. I think generally the assumption about metal music is that it's just kind of a white, western phenomenon, and it's the sort-of-rebellious music of angry teenagers in Europe and North America. Then the other stereotype that we tried to look at is the ways in which these cultures are generally presented in mainstream media. So this film is sort of a two pronged attack, if you will, one showing metal in the new light and then secondly showing these cultures through a different kind of lens, through the lens of youth culture, because generally that's not how you get to see these cultures."

**WITH GLOBAL METAL**, Dunn and McFadyen realized that in order to



**PREVIEW** **GLOBAL METAL**  
DIRECTED BY SAM DUNN AND SCOT MCFADYEN  
STARRING DUNN, MAX CAVELERA, TANG DYNASTY  
PRINCESS THEATRE  
OPENS FRI, JUL 4

show those cultures truthfully, it was important that they spend more time talking to the fans and the regional bands than the metal legends that *A Headbanger's Journey* was lined with from wall to wall. There are still a few of those big names—Iron Maiden's Bruce Dickinson and Metallica's Lars Ulrich both make appearances—but more often than not the experts in this film are the people who are involved in the regional metal scenes on the ground floor.

"We wanted to focus on the places and what's come out of those places and the people we met there and also just include some of the bands who had a huge impact on spreading metal around the world, so it definitely wasn't a lot of the bigger names from the first movie—they wouldn't have fit," McFadyen explains. "There were a lot of people who wanted to be part of it and a lot of people we had to cut out because it doesn't fit."

While the duo altered its approach for *Global Metal* as far as who would be interviewed for the film, McFadyen notes that Japan and Brazil are two countries that could have fit comfortably into the first film's overview of the genre; there is a long history of metal live albums that were recorded in Japan—Judas Priest's *Unleashed in the East*, Deep Purple's *Made in Japan* and Iron Maiden's *Maiden Japan* among them—and Brazil has been the origin of both the monster metal band Sepultura and the massive Rock in Rio festival.

*Global Metal* logically uses those two countries as the starting point for an investigation into the globalization of the music, but McFadyen emphasizes that he and Dunn were out to get beyond the assumptions that each had based on their own knowledge of the famous Japanese live albums or the fact that Sepultura came out of Brazil.

"You look at globalization and you think of it in terms of the western culture going into other cultures and kind of obliterating their own culture and that's a very negative thing—or at least we think it's kind of negative—but there are all these youths around

the world that are developing in the same way that we did in the West and their culture hasn't evolved a thing like rock 'n' roll or heavy metal on its own," he explains. "So heavy metal goes into those cultures and it fills a void for young people around the world and then they end up changing it so they add their own lyrical content and in some cases their own folk traditions, their own musical traditions, and incorporate it into heavy metal. That kind of amazed us. It was something you just wouldn't think."

"Certainly we found that it fills a gap for young people in a lot of countries, that there isn't an equivalent of metal where they come from," Dunn agrees. "India I think is a great example of that. In India, kids grow up generally listening to Bollywood music or listening to the music that their parents grew up with, like with traditional singing and traditional instruments. And then metal, in the last five to 10 years especially, started to make real inroads into India and it's obvious that there's something in the music—its sort of rebellious spirit and maybe just the fact that it comes from somewhere different makes it really exciting for these young people."

**BUT AS THEY DELVED** deeper into the metal scenes in various countries Dunn and McFadyen found that there was no one set way that the music is evolving. The rules of music and categorization differ between many countries.

"In Indonesia, because of the influence that Sepultura had very early on there, for young people metal has always had kind of a political meaning to it, not just in the sense of it being a release, but also in terms of it talking about issues that affect them," Dunn says. "Another good example of that is in Japan where the ways in which the Japanese mix musical styles, as Marty Friedman [former Megadeth guitarist and current purveyor of Japanese pop music] says in the film, the taboos are off."

So, while political unrest on a day to day basis has led places like Brazil and Indonesia to embrace a political approach in metal lyrics, the situation in Japan allows for music like Death Panda, combining heavy metal guitars with singsong shoutalongs from a

BY EDEN MUNRO



VIEW  
 JUL 4 (P. 11)  
**THE PARLOR MOB**  
 S. WHITE ROOM, S13

GEN HANDLEY / gen@vuwweekly.com

The vibe in the Parlor Mob's tour van is very relaxed and mellow. The band is on its way to Chicago for the first gig of a 24-show tour.

"Let me give you a rundown of what everyone's doing," says bass player Nick Villapiano. "Dave [guitarist] is posting pretty hard in the back seat on a pillow, killing it. Mark [Melicia, vocalist] is in the back, kind of mean-mugging me about looking so good, our tour manager and Paul [Ritchie, guitarist] are playing *Madden Football* on our PlayStation 2, and Sam [Bey, drummer] is up there doing and I've got shotgun."

Villapiano says because it's already been two days since they've left and haven't played a show yet, the van is buzzing with serious anticipation, creating a definite unspoken itch to start playing again.

When you listen to the New Jersey band's latest CD, *And You Were a Crow*, you can definitely hear the influences of '60s and '70s rock 'n' roll. While Villapiano admits those eras play a role in the band's sound, he also notes that other artists who have played a role in the Parlor Mob's current sound range from the Dillinger Escape Plan to Bob Dylan to the Wu Tang Clan.

"We find inspiration in any kind of good music," the 25-year-old says.

Since its formation in 2004, this will be the first time the Parlor Mob makes its way up to this neck of the Canadian woods.

"I really don't know what to expect," Villapiano says after being asked what he envisions Edmonton to be like. "Hmm, it's some kind of developed metropolis that does or does not have a tie-in to oil? I really don't know. I don't want to say anything



about maple syrup or Rush or something like that. Rush does rock though."

Originally called What About Frank?, the Parlor Mob changed its name after the band started to get more serious. Villapiano says the name comes from a post-civil war street gang in New York.

"It has a good ring to it, it's representative of our area and we think that time in American culture was really cool," he explains. "All right, Parlor Mob it is, and it sounds like we're bad asses so let's run with it."

So are the guys bad asses?

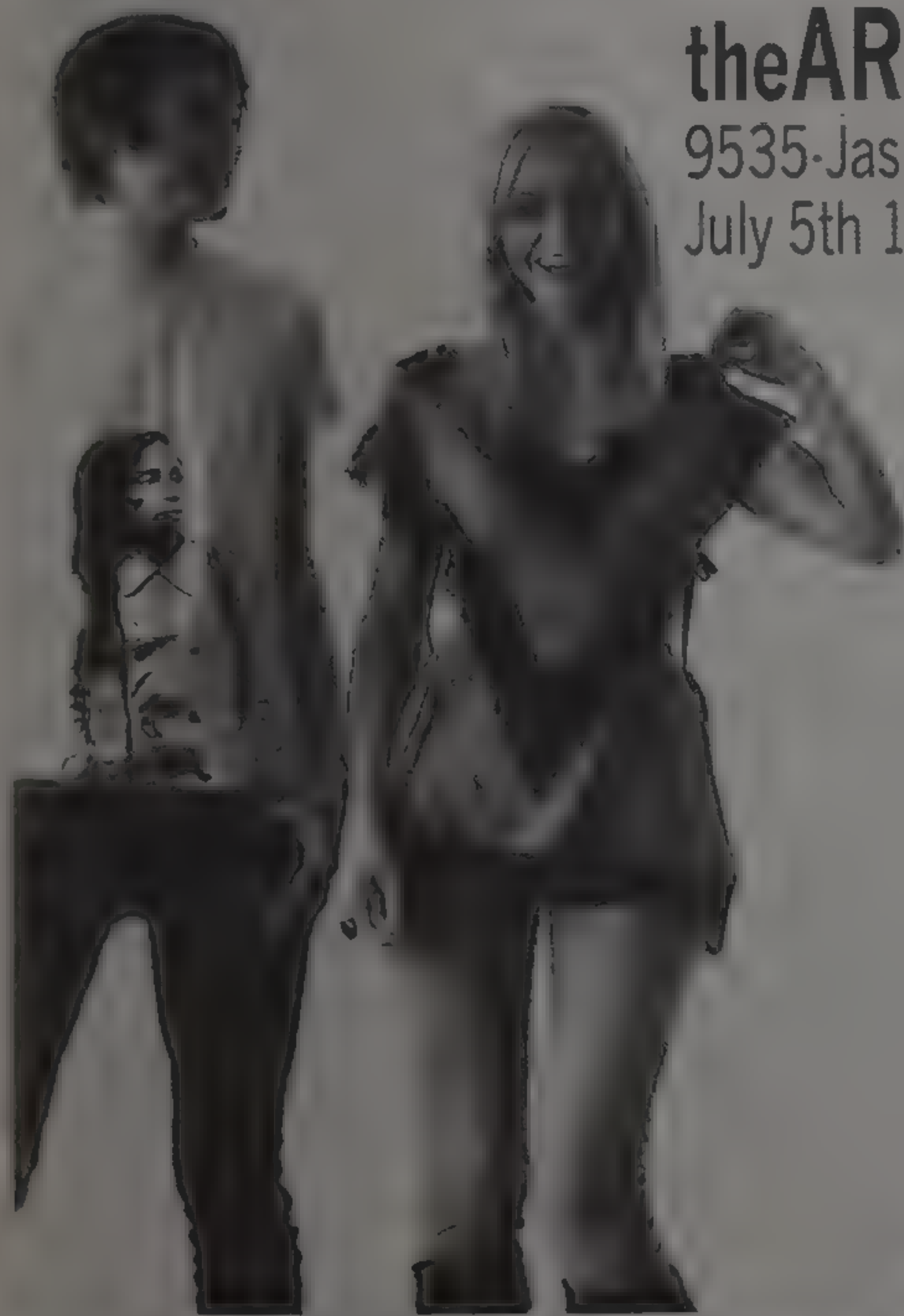
"Oh yeah, for sure," he replies.

On what he calls the first Parlor Mob tour without "training wheels," Villapiano says fans who come to the upcoming shows will see a band that has landed on its own two feet.

"I'm pretty sure there's going to be some amazing shows this tour because we're getting along so well and we're working so well together," he says. "I mean we're living our dream right now." ▼

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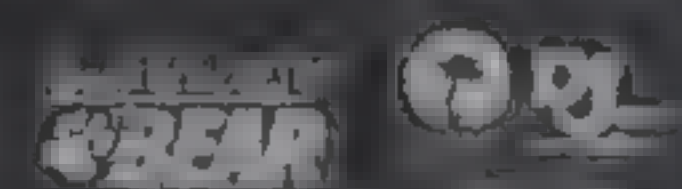
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## The parties are a little tamer at *Sunset Estates*

ALYSSA NOEL / alyssa@vuweekly.com

As **Jake Ian** learned recently, his debut solo disc, *Sunset Estates*, will not get the party started.

"I had some criticism over [the record] recently," he recalls. "Not that it's bad. I was at a party and I was showing people it and they said, 'Put on something a little more upbeat.' There's a time and a place for it."

Part of that so-called criticism might stem from the fact that friends and fans aren't used to hearing folk songs from Ian, who also does time in pop punk band PiND. But, as he points out, the folk/country genre isn't as far from punk as it might appear. "I've always enjoyed country-folk music," he said. "I always thought country and punk were quite similar. [They're] both simple with good harmonies. A punk rocker is similar to a cowboy in a lot of ways."

Besides a jump in genre, this album also marks Ian's first foray into the solo world. So far, it's been both interesting and expensive. As he explains, you don't have three other pockets to dip into for recording costs. And as for performing, he notes that he doesn't have the safety net that comes with the noise of multiple instruments.

"You can still hear the audience," he admits, "but your ears aren't ringing at the end of the night."

As a result, though, according to Ian, the quality of his music and lyrics have gone up as a result of his new solo status. "When it's just an acoustic guitar, you better have good songs," he said. "There's not a face-melting guitar solo to fill the dead air."

PREVIEW

FRI, JUL 4 (8 PM)  
**JAKE IAN**  
AXIS CAFÉ, \$10

Ian recorded the album with a drummer, but played the rest of the instruments on his own. The solitary process has been indicative of his life in recent years. He lived for two years in a trailer park, sticking mostly to himself and then, until last Friday, in the small town of Hinton, AB. That lifestyle has informed much of this album, he said.

"I was living a pretty secluded lifestyle," he reveals. "There was nobody ever around. It was kind of lonely."

**BUT THAT'S ALL ABOUT** to change. Not only has Ian moved to Edmonton, but he's also about to embark on a tour across Western Canada, hitting up cities small and large. Ian says that he enjoys the gratitude that seems to come more readily from small town shows.

"Smaller towns are fun to play because sometimes there's not a lot of music going through," he says.

Often those shows are also where you get audiences made up of the widest variety of listeners. Luckily *Sunset Estates* has proven to be a hit amongst the older crowd as well.

"My grandma likes it," Ian laughs. "I always give my grandma CDs. She said, 'Oh, that's nice,' but I'm pretty sure she listened to it for about three seconds. But she said she liked it. It's good it appeals to a wider crowd."



of young Japanese girls. It's unthinkable that they would combine a lot of these styles in the west—it's off limits—but there it's something that's valued, bringing together all these different styles," Dunn laughs. "That's another example how it might not be expressly political in Japan but it's certainly this kind of

vehicle for people to express themselves in a different way."

**DUNN AND McFAUEN** use *Global Metal* to illustrate just how metal has spread out across the globe, as well as how the style has been taken and thrown into a pot of influences far removed from its western origins. As creative as the resulting music often is, though, Dunn points out that, just like in the western music industry, there are also plenty of copycat bands

that simply try to recreate what other groups have already done rather than conjuring up something new.

"In some places metal is just starting to gain a foothold—in India we found the Indian equivalent of Lamb of God, we found the Indian equivalent of Dimmu Borgir—so there is an element of that kind of copycat metal that's going on," he says, before adding, "but then you look at countries like Japan or China or Israel where bands are taking the core spirit

of metal but then bringing in their own cultural influences, their own stories and histories, so it's something that speaks to them on their own level. With globalization it doesn't happen equally everywhere, so the spread of metal is happening at different rates all over the place and I think that what's exciting about it is that now we have this kind of global picture of metal where it's taking on all sorts of different shapes and sounds in these different countries

"We shall see," he continues. "A band like Chthonic from Taiwan, who toured on Ozzfest, is a band that has had some impact [in the West] and their lyrics are kind of focused around promoting Taiwan as an independent nation from China and they use a lot of their own history and old instruments in their music. I gotta say, it's going to be an exciting time when a Chinese metal band gets popular in the west—things will truly have changed at that point." ▼



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REVIEWS

# NEW SOUNDS

**Ghostkeeper, ... And the Children of the Great Northern Muskeg (Saved By Radio)** When Shane Ghostkeeper plays his guitar, he attacks it. Actually, that might be putting it a little too lightly. He actually grabs the instrument and pummels it like he's engaged in a life-and-death struggle, a real Kirk vs the Gorn moment. Oh, Ghostkeeper's debut with his band, also named Ghostkeeper, doesn't start out like that—there's a slow and bluesy lick that creeps out of the guitar in the record's first moments, accompanied by some slight, rattling percussion. But then the entire band kicks the song into motion, and Ghostkeeper starts hammering away on a hypnotically repetitive riff.

That opening salvo, "Mr No Show," actually goes a long way towards defining the sound of this band. Ghostkeeper demonstrates an affinity for guitar riffs throughout the album, beating the chords out of his six-string. It's as though Ghostkeeper is channeling the wild abandon and sidetricks into freak-out noise that the Stooges pulled off at that band's best so many years ago.

And yet, it would be hard to characterize *Children of the Great Northern Muskeg* as a punk album in sound, even if the spirit is coming from the same place. There's melody in the circling guitars of "Lady of the Sky," and "Solid Gold" is a soul-stirring ballad that tugs at the heart without cloying.

There's also decidedly less distortion to be found on the guitars here than in what is and what passes for punk these days. The sound is actually one of the most welcoming ones to

find it's way onto record in some time. The guitars are just overdriven enough that you can hear the strain on them without obliterating the

unique characteristics of the instrument with a wall of fuzz, and it's that strain that makes the songs *radio*.

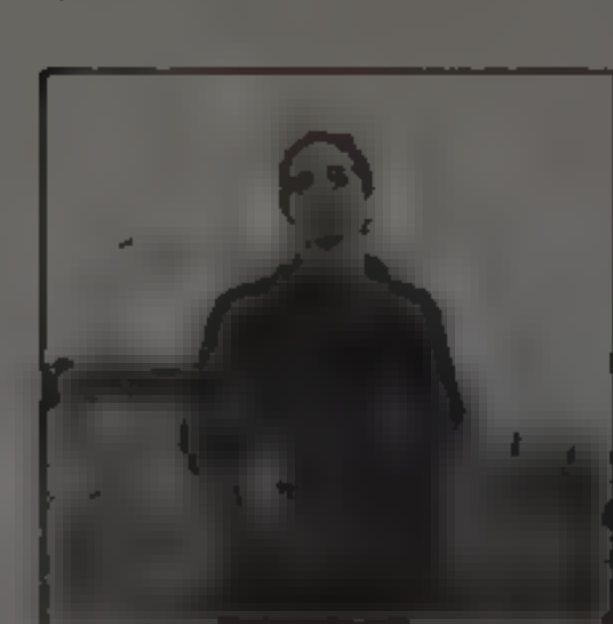
And then there are the vocals; Ghostkeeper the band may take its name from Shane Ghostkeeper, but this record is a split between him and *Alles Sam*

Jane, who handles the drums and *Alles Sam* the sharp divides between the two lead singers—there are actually four voices to be heard on the record, with producer/multi-instrumentalist Jay Crocker and bassist Scott Munro also chiming in—with Ghostkeeper and Jane tossing lines back and forth, overlapping at times and picking up for each other at others. There are even a few times where the singers work seemingly in opposition, with voices sweeping up behind each other, as they do on "Mr No Show" where Ghostkeeper rises up with the song's chorus behind Jane's verses, bringing the tune to the edge of cacophony and reeling it back in without quite stepping over.

If a criticism was to be levelled at *Children of the Great Northern Muskeg*, it might be that the propensity for repeating lines that rise and fall in pattern rears itself a little too often. But that would be reaching, really, because at 35 minutes, the record just gets going and then it leaves you wanting more. And that's one of the highlights; then, that Ghostkeeper knows how far to go and when to stop. —EDEN MUNRO / eden@vuweekly.com



**Jakob Dylan, Seeing Things (Columbia)** Now, now, there's no



reason to get a hate on for Jakob Dylan. It's hard to make a name in the music industry when your dad is Bob Dylan. There's a lot of

pressure to live up to the myths and legends—not to mention the massive catalogue of material—that come up often in conjunction with the old man's name. Granted, the younger Dylan never helped his case with the modern-folk-rock sludge that his band the Wallflowers produced for a few years. But those days are gone and now he's got himself a solo album that drops the modern rock part of the equation and goes all-out folksy. The results aren't so bad, really. "Evil Is Alive and Well" is a pretty good title for a folk tune in this day and age and the melody is okay, too. "All Day and All Night" is a decent crack at upping the energy with some drums and some kinda angry words. The biggest problem might just be that, unlike dad, this Dylan just doesn't have a very remarkable voice. Oh, he can sing, all right, but it always seems too easy for him as line after line rolls right off his tongue. There's never much urgency, and at times he seems completely bored. Still, there's enough potential here that it might be interesting to see how he progresses from here. Let's just hope he doesn't go backwards and drop another Wallflowers album on the world. —EDEN MUNRO / eden@vuweekly.com

**Ariane Mahryke Lemire, Double Entendre (Independent)**



Being an independent singer-songwriter cannot be easy. Establishing oneself in the music scene is hard work, but it

also helps to have a CD that will grab listeners' attention and make them want to listen. *Double Entendre*, which contains one CD in English and one in French, does not rise to this challenge. Ariane Mahryke Lemire offers 16 songs between the two CDs; however, very few songs stand out from one another. One slow, breathy song blends into the next, creating a sappy, unmemorable mess. The only real exception is "Bath for 2," which contains a delightfully subtle cheekiness. And then there are all the lyrics "Sunday," for instance, presents lines such as "I've been missing my old lovers / Missing what they saw in me," and in the end it comes off as whiny rather than deep. And when such an intensely self-referential focus exists throughout an entire CD, it'll likely tire and alienate an audience, and *Double Entendre* definitely has the potential to do just that. —MARIA KOTOVYCH / maria@vuweekly.com

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Whitesnake, *Good to Be Bad* (Steamhammer) It was a pretty happy day at the office when the latest album from Whitesnake showed up. Why? Well, because we spent the rest of the afternoon playing one of the most enjoyable games in the world, which just happens to be named after the band. Here's how Whitesnake is played: think up the best band names that can be used to describe a bowel movement. Here's a few of our favourites to get you started: Deep Purple, Cream, Strawberry Alarm Clock, Quiet Riot, String Cheese Incident, Godspeed You! Black Emperor, and, for local content, Ten Second Epic. Think you can top those? Email your Whitesnake to us at whitesnake@vuw-weekly.com.

As for the album: let's just say there's a reason the band spawned this particular game. And to up the ante on the game, check out these song titles: "Can You Hear the Wind Howl," "Summer Rain," "Lay Down Your Love" ... it's almost too easy. —SCOTT HARRIS / scott@vuwweekly.com

**Wolf Parade, *At Mount Zoomer* (Sub Pop)** When Wolf Parade sings "We are not at home / We are not at home / We are not at home" ad infinitum on "Language City," the third track on the band's newest album, *At Mount Zoomer*, the band really means it. Various offshoots and solo projects have kept the members away from each other for a long time, and though all of these projects were very exciting, none of it hit me the way the opening salvos of wobbly snare shots did on *Apologies to the Queen Mary*, so you can imagine the excitement I was feeling when the new one arrived.

A lot of ink has been spilled calling *At Mount Zoomer* a more "complete" album than the last one, but I think that that's just lazy shorthand for "no singles"—a warning the band apparently delivered to its label heads at Sub Pop during the course of making this sprawling and unrelenting record. It's not as if *Apologies* ... couldn't be considered a "complete" album—the kind of thing you just had to sit down and listen to from beginning to end. In fact, it was. Sure, there were some standout tracks, but the thing bled from song to song on a reckless and remorseful trip that (like *Mount Zoomer*) is the kind of thing you put on your iPod, try to walk to a friend's house while listening to it, but then find yourself across a bridge or in the river valley and the album ends and you don't know what's going on anymore. But you're glad to be there. —BRYAN BIRTLES / bryan@vuwweekly.com

## Mix tapes are the bestest

**MUSIC** **ENTER SANDOR**  
STEVEN SANDOR  
steven@vuwweekly.com

I just finished the excellent *Love is a Mix Tape: Life and Loss, One Song at a Time*, a memoir of pop music and loss penned by *Rolling Stone's* Rob Sheffield. It's a wonderful read.

In the book, Sheffield tells the tragic story of the love of his life—he lost his wife when she was just 31—and, chapter by chapter, he shows us how, in the good times and the bad, he uses mix tapes as signposts. These mixes are snapshots of his moods, of his tastes at the time. They remind him of the joy of meeting his future wife and the devastation of losing her so suddenly, and so soon. And this comes from a guy who can put Whitney Houston together with Pavement on a tape.

Obviously, as times evolved, the mix tape has given way to the CD, and now the iPod. Sheffield writes that he absolutely loves iPods, but, I have to take issue with him there. It's oh so easy to put a mix together on iTunes, isn't it? It doesn't take the work that putting together a mix CD or tape did, whether it be for personal use, a party or to break the ice with a girl (if you are over 30, you know exactly what this means. Every guy in this age group has done this at least once. Oh, so sad for members of the younger generation that they will never put the hopes of a

relationship on a mix tape or CD ... a dozen fateful songs could decide if she loves me, or loves me not).

A few years back, I was in a group of about a dozen people, all living in different North American cities, who traded mix CDs. Basically, each of us made a dozen copies of our mix, and sent one copy off to each member in the group. (Moe Berg, of the Pursuit of Happiness fame, was in our team of CD mailers.) So, every couple of months or so, we'd each get a bunch of mixes in the mail.

The beauty was the work each of us put in to make our mixes. The CDs had themes, definite logic that linked the songs. There were mixes of only cover songs. There was a mix featuring the TV themes of Mike Post, from *Law and Order* to *Magnum, P.I.* The best mix I made was a bunch of songs by bands writing about other artists or bands. It included Banned from Atlantis's punk screamer "Sebadoboy," moving to Ben Lee's "Away with the Pixies" (which is actually a song about Liz Phair) to the Pixies' weird ode to former teen idol Debbie Gibson, "Make Believe."

Basically, it was like having pen pals without ever putting a pen to paper (OK, I used to write ridiculous liner notes to each mix, so sue me) And I miss that. And it's that magic that Sheffield captures so well in his book. ▽

Steven Sandor is a former editor-in-chief of *Vue Weekly*, now an editor and author living in Toronto.

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**CARIBBEAN CONNECTION**  
**MACHETE MUSIC**  
Hip hop meets ragga  
Reaching, for me, a brand new  
Apex of hatred


**FROM FIRST TO LAST**  
**FROM FIRST TO LAST**  
**SURETONE/INTERSCOPE**  
Emo dilemma:  
I want to mature, yet still  
Appeal to pre-teens

**FOXY BROWN**  
**BROOKLYN'S DON DIVA**  
**KITCH**  
Years on, Foxy is  
Still talented and whorish  
A timeless combo

**ASPIRATIONS**  
**EP**  
**UNDERGROUND OPERATIONS**  
Makes me miss the Cleats  
Makes me miss Our Mercury  
Makes me want some milk

**ROB DICKINSON**  
**FRESH WINE FOR THE HORSES**  
**UMUSIC**  
Epic and sweeping  
Music for 40-year-old dads  
Who loved the '90s

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# Forest City Lovers is all heart and craft

Joe Fuda



MARY CHRISTA O'KEEFE / marychrista@vueweekly.com

**'T**he connection between music and visual arts is strong for me," notes Kat Burns, founder and core songwriter of Toronto-based musical project **Forest City Lovers**. "They compliment each other really well, they're both able to be arresting—one may be a bit more portable than another, but both music and art evoke feeling and meaning."

As products of Burns' capable hands and fertile mind, they both certainly do. Her illustrations and animations seem like new urban folk art, vibrant pieces alive with heartfelt labour, imagination and the DIY joy of craft.

Similar delight in expression pervades her songwriting, even when it bends from giddiness to something more pensive. FCL makes music that sounds like it's lingering in the wake

PREVIEW

FRI, JUL 4 (7:30 PM)  
**FOREST CITY LOVERS**  
WITH SPREEPARK, TOY SINGERS, JOEL HARDING  
FACULTÉ ST-JEAN AMPHITHEATRE/CAMPUS  
SAINT-JEAN (8406-91 ST), \$10

of a small-scale pop-loving gypsy caravan, whimsy and sweetness balanced with thoughtful intention, wistfulness edged with worldliness.

"The visuals and music feed each other," Burns explains. "One couldn't exist without the other. I've been interested in combining them for ages, and the band lets me do that."

"Merchandise!" she laughs. "Screen printing at home is one of my favourite things to do before our tours. It's really satisfying!"

Distinctive handmade touches mark all aspects of Burns' creations. FCL's 2006 debut, *The Sun and the Wind*, was

recorded before the project congealed as a band with a regular roster, but the record's still lush from contributing guests Burns gathered around her from her corner of Toronto's sprawling quirky pop scene, pals like Ohbijou and Out of the Spark labelmates the D'Urbervilles. The album artwork is hers, as lovingly pieced together as its contents.

FCL solidified into a quartet shortly after the debut was released, freeing Burns to experiment with songwriting and arrangements, more certain of tools and tones she'd have at her disposal. Earlier this year, the group released its sophomore record, *Haunting Moon Singing*. It contains the same elements that made the debut appealing, but is more sweeping and confident.

Songs unfurl from Burns' rolling piano or warm shudders of guitar she has a characteristic bold style with both—and her incredible honey-eyed voice. Kyle Donnelly's bass bubbles melodically beneath, like an underground spring, while violinist Mika Posen uses her instrument like a wide palette of colours, sometimes just a slight flutter or gloss, at other times with orchestral intensity.

FLC lost its drummer shortly after *Haunting Moon* was finished, but Burns and friends are already breaking new sonic ground.

"Live arrangements are different from recorded ones anyway," Burns reasons. "The important thing is that the ideas are clear." ▼

# EDMONTON MUSICIANS DIRECTORY

Edmonton's only MUSICIANS DIRECTORY offers free listings to any musician, band or artist. Just send us your name (band name), genre, contact info (name phone email) a photo if possible and a brief stylistic description. (Vue reserves the right to edit for length)

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**ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19)**

Here's the first rule of panning for gold: go to a slow-moving stream where flecks of the precious metal have been found by others in the past. The second rule is this: although gold is carried along by the current, it's heavier than water and thus rarely appears right on the surface. Look deeper. A third pointer is that if you do ultimately find substantial treasure, it'll be because you will have gradually accumulated a number flakes and nuggets over an extended period of time. You've got to be patient. Now, Aries, apply everything I just said to your search for metaphorical gold.

**TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20)**

In his song "Get Behind the Mule," Tom Waits tells us to "Never let the weeds get taller than the garden." That's advice you should heed in the coming weeks. But don't go overboard and become a fanatic who acts as if weeds are evil demons from the ninth level of hell. Keeping a few well-trimmed wild plants and a mushroom or two would be quite healthy. You need a bit of messy serendipity mixed in with your law and order.

**GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20)**

In her book *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, Annie Dillard notes that there is only a tiny difference between the lifebloods of plants and animals. A molecule of chlorophyll contains 36 atoms of hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen and carbon arrayed around an atom of magnesium, while a molecule of hemoglo-

bin is exactly the same except for an atom of iron instead of magnesium. I offer this as an apt metaphor to illustrate the choice you have ahead of you: As similar as the various possibilities may seem, the simple thing you put at the center of each option will make a tremendous difference.

**CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22)**

It's Beautify Yourself Week, dear Cancerian. A conspiracy of cosmic proportions is preparing the conditions necessary for you to capitalize handsomely on this opportunity. At this very moment, there is beauty behind you and beauty in front of you. There is beauty to your left and beauty to your right, beauty above you and beauty below you. All you have to do is inhale, drink in and otherwise suck up this lushness. It will interact synergistically with the splendour that is also welling up in you, and you will transform into an almost unbearably gorgeous work of art.

**LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22)**

Are you up for some cutting-edge slashing and smashing and crashing? I'm talking about slashing the price you've been paying for following your dreams; smashing beliefs that made sense years ago but are irrelevant now; and crashing parties where your future teachers and allies are gathered. Once you get the hang of all that, Leo, you can move on to other brilliant demolitions, like cracking codes, breaking trances and shattering spells cast on you by the past.

**VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22)**

When Tom first arrived in Santa Cruz from South Carolina at age 22, he was homeless and had \$110. He quickly scored a temp job as a labourer, doing menial tasks at construction sites. His first assignment was at a

place where a delivery truck had accidentally dropped a load of lumber at the bottom of a hill instead of at the top where a new house was to be built. Tom's job was to carry the heavy boards and beams up the hill one by one. He felt a bit like Sisyphus in the Greek myth—that forlorn character whose punishment by the gods required him to push a boulder up a hill again and again, only to have it plummet down each time as he reached the peak. Unlike Sisyphus, things got better for Tom. During the next 15 years, he became a successful real estate agent. One day he sold the million-dollar house that had been built from the wood he'd once toted up the hill. This is a perfect time, Virgo, for you to predict and plot out a long-term personal triumph that will match Tom's.

**LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)**

It's the Power-Gathering Season for you, Libra. A good way to energize your efforts would be to define clearly and imaginatively what power means to you. I've got two riffs to get you started. First, here's one from a famous French ruler whose name I'll withhold so as not to distract you from the riff itself: "I love power. But it is as an artist that I love it. I love it as a musician loves his violin, to draw out its sounds and chords and harmonies." Here's the second definition, from poet Dennis Holt in his newsletter "Quincunx": "Power is what seeds the woodpecker down from his tree to poke for worms in the muddy road one morning after all-night rain on a ridge above the Pacific within earshot of the surf."

**SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)**

I'm not a big fan of Disneyland, but that doesn't mean I can't borrow its ideas for your use. The fact is, Scorpio, the coming

weeks will be an excellent time for you to identify your own personal versions of frontierland, adventureland, or tomorrowland. I'm not talking about experiences and places that resemble glitzy theme-parks, but rather the wild and thrilling things that gently shock your mind into expanding. You're in a phase of your cycle when you'll tend to generate good luck and helpful synchronicity by pushing your imagination beyond its usual fantasies.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 - DEC 21)**

Beginning in 1951, the US government regularly set off nuclear bombs in the desert 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas. Most of the 1021 explosions occurred underground, though for 11 years some were also done in the open air. Tourists used to flock to Las Vegas to watch the mushroom clouds, which were visible from that distance. As far as we know, the detonations ceased in 1992. Also as far as we know, the unusual lifestyles of Las Vegas's inhabitants are not the result of mutations in their DNA caused by radioactive contamination. Let's use this scenario as a departure point for your own personal inventory, Sagittarius. What dangerous or tempestuous events from your life are now safely confined to the past? Are there any lingering consequences from them? If so, what might you do to heal?

**CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)**

By the year 2100, some human beings will be married to sophisticated robots. So concludes David Levy, who got a doctorate from a Dutch university for his thesis, "Intimate Relationships with Artificial Partners." Let's use his prophecy as a jumping-off point for your meditation, Capricorn. In your fantasies about togeth-

erness, are you unconsciously harbouring any unrealistic desires for robotic perfection? If so, are they interfering with your ability to have deep and satisfying relationships with interesting but flawed people? Take inventory of any tendencies you might have to want artificial partners. Then dissolve those delusions.

**AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18)**

"Dear Rob: After a long stretch of patiently putting up with God's mean-spirited tricks I decided I'd had enough. So I fired Him. Now I'm going to create a brand new deity from scratch. Do you have any recommendations on what qualities a truly cool divine being might possess? —Awakening Aquarius." Dear Awakening: One quality your fresh god should have is an appreciation for your originality. You also deserve a deity who likes it when you take your fate into your own hands. That's all I'll say. It's a good time for you Aquarians to shake other people's ideas about the divine influences and brainstorm extravagantly about what's true for you.

**PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20)**

What are the differences between tacky meaningless fun and beautiful, constructive fun? What are the distinctions between dumb, trivial pleasure and smart life-exalting pleasure? I'm hoping that meditations on these subjects will inspire you to overcome any laziness you might have about cultivating happiness. It's a perfect time for you to attempt this monumental accomplishment, you see. You're at a potential turning point in your astrological cycle, a time when you could get in the habit of treating your hero's journey as if it were an ever-evolving celebration. ♡

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EVENTS  
WEEKLY

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## CLUBS/LECTURES

**ARTS OUTREACH BIG BANDS** MacEwan's Centre for the Arts (427-4303) • For musicians of all levels to enjoy the joy of music • Tue or Wed (7:30-9:30pm)

**AWA 12 STEP SUPPORT GROUP** Braeside Church basement, N. door, 6 Bernard Dr., St. Albert • For people with a history of alcoholic and dysfunctional families • For people attending on Monday including holidays (7:30pm)

**BAC YARD COMPOSTING AND GRASSCYCLING** Future Centre Fort Edmonton Park Fox Drive • 426-2925 • Explore composting methods, the principles behind it, how to solve common problems and how to compost. A tour of the Compost Education Garden • July 12 • \$10

**CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE** 11205 44th St. (934-1340) • Basketball, Mon (5-7pm) • Judo, Mon (6-8pm) • Boxing, Mon/Thu (7-8:30pm) • Volleyball, Tue (6-8pm) • Sewing, Tue (6-8pm) • Breadwork Class, Wed (6-8pm) • Fitness class, Wed (6-9pm) • Hip-Hop Class, Thu (6-8pm) • Cree Class, Thu (6-8pm) • Elders, Fri (all day) • Safe Using and Harm Reduction, Fri every month (11am-12pm) • Tobacco, Fri (11-12pm) • Drop-in Night, Fri (6-8pm)

**EDMONTON GHOST TOURS** (780-469-3187) Meet in front of the Queen Statue, Walterdale Playhouse, 5 Ave. • www.edmontonghosttours.com • A walking tour in Old Strathcona • Until Aug. 21, Monday only (9:30pm) • \$5

**4TH OF JULY PICNIC** Hawrelak Park, Shelter 2 (780-432-7660) • For homesick Americans, bring your own food, table settings and beverages • Fri, July 4 (5:30pm)

**FREE YOGA** Lululemon Athletica Kingsway security entrance 2 (780-471-1200) • All levels welcome, new styles each week, mats provided • Every Sun (6-7pm)

**FRIENDS OF THE ALBERTA JUBILEE AUDITORIUM SOCIETY** (426-2889) • www.jubileeauditorium.com/northern/community/play.asp • Play with us—Summer 2008: For High School students interested in a career in the arts covering: Great Stage Presence, Song-writing, LIVE Audio Mixing, DIY Production, Funding Your Project, Show Promotion, Clowning with Samantha Schultz and Samantha King • July 4-6

**LET'S MOVE THE ELEPHANT INTO THE ROOM** University of Alberta, www.ourclimate.ca • For youth ages 16-30 to participate in CYCC's Alberta Summit • Email paulbakerc@hotmail.com • July 4-6 • Free

**MEDITATION • Gaden Samten Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society:** 11403-101 St (780-479-0014) www.gadensantenling.org by Kushok Loasang Dhamchoe; beginner Tue (7pm); intermediate Wed (7pm); advanced Sun (11am-1pm) • **Brahma Kamari World Spiritual Organization,** 208, 10132-105 St (425-1050) www.bkwsu.org; Raja Yoga • **Lululemon and Buddhism practices** 10502-70 Ave, www.kamatashiling.ca (633-6157) with Tibetan tradition Lama Ani Kunsang. Beginners welcome, instruction available; free; Wed (7pm)

**SUMMER LABYRINTH WALK** Riverdale Hall, 9231-100 Ave (780-424-8339) • An indoor walk, is open to all ages, and is done in silence • Sat, July 12 (11am-2pm) • Donation

**TOASTMASTERS CLUBS • Chamber Toastmasters Club:** Chamber of Commerce, 600, 9990 Jasper Ave (780-459-5206); Thu (6pm) • **MacEwan:** Grant MacEwan College, Rm 5-238, 10700-104 Ave (780-633-3921); Fri (noon-1pm) • **N'Orators Toastmasters Club:** Londonderry Public Library www.norators.com; Wed (7-8:45pm) • **Power Speakers:** Grant MacEwan Centre for the Arts, Rm 437, 10045-156 St (780-459-0642); Wed (7-9pm) • **Pursuers:** Best Western Cedar Park Inn, 5116 Gateway Boulevard (780-457-0808); Wed (7-9pm) • **Chamber:** Kingsway Rm, Millard Health Building, 131 Airport Rd (498-4608/474-1138) Thu (7-8:30am)

**VEGETARIANS OF ALBERTA** Riverdale Community Centre Playground area, 9231-100 Ave (780-908-2713) • Free Potluck: Bring a vegetarian, vegan or raw food potluck dish to serve at least 6 people, your own drink, utensils, beverage and serving utensil • Sat, July 13 (5:30-7pm), www.VoA.ca

**WHAT A WAY TO GO, LIFE AT THE END OF EMPIRE** Trinity Church of Edmonton, 13210 106 Ave (780-913-1166) • Documentary film • Fri, July 11 (7-9pm) • \$10

**WOMEN IN BLACK** In front of the Old Strathcona Farmers Market • Silent vigil the 1st and 3rd Sat (10-11am) every month, stand in silence for a world without violence • July 5, 19

## QUEER LISTINGS

**AFFIRM SUNNYBROOK-RED DEER** Sunnybrook Trinity Church, Red Deer (403-347-6073) • Affirm welcomes LGBTQ people and their friends, family, and allies • Meet the 2nd Tue (7pm) every month

**WOODY'S NITE CLUB** 117258 Jasper Ave 780-488-

7736) • Open nightly 9pm-3am, Fri 8pm-3pm • Sun: Rotating drag shows with Mz Bianca and Mz Vanity Fair in The Stardust Lounge and GoDiva and Donnatella NE1 in The GoDiva Show, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy • Mon: Amateur strip contest with Mia Fellow, midnight, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy • Tue: Free pool and tourney, DJ Arrowchaser • Wed: Hump day with DJ Sexy Sean • Thu: Wet underwear contest with Mia Fellow, midnight, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy • Fri: We made 'em famous! DJ Eddy Toonflash, come early to avoid lineup, no cover before 10pm • Sat: Undie night for men only, free pool and tourney, DJ Arrowchaser

**EDMONTON PRIME TIMERS (EPT)** Unitarian Church of Edmonton, 10804-119 St • A group of older gay men and their admirers who have common social interests meet the 2nd Sun (2:30pm) of most months for a social period, a short meeting and a guest speaker, discussion panel or a potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other social activities throughout the month. email edmontonpt@yahoo.ca, www.primetimer-www.org/edmonton

**GLBT SPORTS AND RECREATION** www.teamedmonton.ca • Women's Drop-In Recreational Badminton; Oliver School Gym, 10227-118 St (780-465-3620); Wed (6-7:30pm) • Bootcamp; St. Alphonsus, 11624-81 St; Mon (7-8pm), bootcamp@teamedmonton.ca • Bowling: Gateway Lanes, 100 3414 Gateway Blvd; Sat (5-7pm); bowling@teamedmonton.ca • Running: Sun, Tue, Thu; running@teamedmonton.ca • Swimming: NAIT pool, 11762-106 St; Tue (8-9pm), Thu (7:30-8:30pm); swimming@teamedmonton.ca • Volleyball: 101 Amiskwacay Academy, Municipal Airport Terminal just off Kingsway, Wed recreational (8-10pm); recvolleyball@teamedmonton.ca; Thu Intermediate; volleyball@teamedmonton.ca • YOGA (Hatha): Free Lion's Breath Yoga; every Sun (2-3:30pm); yoga@teamedmonton.ca

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** Boots, 10242-106 St (780-387-3343) • Crossdressers, transsexuals, friends and supporters meet 2nd Thu each month http://groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton\_illusions/

**INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus** • Campus-based organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified and queer (LGBTQ) faculty, graduate student, academic, straight allies and support staff • 3rd Thu every month (fall/winter terms): Speakers Series. Contact Kris (kwells@ualberta.ca)

**LIVING POSITIVE** 404, 10408-124 St, www.edmliving-positive.ca (1-877-975-9448/780-488-5768) • Providing confidential peer support to people living with HIV • Tue (7-9pm): Support group • Daily drop-in, peer counselling

**MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION** Faculté St. Jean, Rm 3-18 (780-490-7332) • Program for HIV-AIDS: prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages • 3rd and 4th Sat (9am-5pm) every month • Free (member)/\$10 (membership) • Pre-register

**Making Waves Swimming Club** www.geocities.com/makingwaves\_edm • Recreational and competitive swimming with coaching, beginners encouraged to participate. Socializing after practices • Every Tue, Thu

**PFLAG** Pride Centre, 9540-111 Ave • Support meeting for parents, families and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people • 1st Tue (7pm) every month • Information phone Ruby at 780-436-1998 after 6pm, or edmontonab@pflagcanada.ca

**PRIDE CENTRE OF EDMONTON** 9540-111 Ave, www.pridecentreofedmonton.org (780-488-3234) • Open Tue-Fri 1-10pm, Sat 2-6:30pm • LGBT Seniors Drop-in: Meet every Tue/Thu (2-4pm) • CA: Meet every Thu (7pm) • Suit Up and Show Up: AA big book study group meet every Sat (noon) • Youth Understanding Youth: Youth up to 25 years, support and social group meet every Sat (7-9pm); yuy@shaw.ca • Womanspace: Board meeting 1st Sun each month (10:30am-12:30pm) • Trans Education/Support Group: Meet the 1st and 3rd Sun (2-4pm) of each month; www.albertatrans.org • Men Talking with Pride: Meet every Sun (7pm); facilitator: Rob Wells robwells780@hotmail.com • HIV Support Group: Meet the 2nd Mon of each month (7pm) • Transgender, Transsexual, Intersex and Questioning (TIQ) Alliance; Support meeting the 2nd Tue each month (7:30pm) • PFLAG Edmonton: Support and resource group for parents and friends of GLBT individuals meet the 1st Tue each month (7pm) • Free short-term, solution-focused drop-in counseling; every Wed (7-10pm) • YouthSpace: drop-in for LGBTQ youth up to 25; Tues-Sat (3-7pm)

**ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH** 10209-123 St (780-482-1587) www.rwuc.org • Soul OUTing: an LGBT-focused alternative worship • 3rd Sun every month (7pm); worship Sun (10:30am); people of all sexual orientations welcome. A LGBT monthly book club and a bi-monthly film night. Call for more info or email jravenscroft@rwuc.org

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH** 11526-76 Ave (780-436-1555) • People of all sexual orientations are welcome • Every Sun (10am worship)

**WOODY'S** 11723 Jasper Ave (780-488-6557) • Open daily (noon) • Sat-Tue Karaoke with Tizzy and Patrick • Sat-Sun Pool Tournaments

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**AINEMBABAZI CHILDREN'S PROJECT SKYDIVE FOR AFRICA** Eden North Parachute School, www.ainembabazi.org/skydive.htm • Aims to improve the quality of life for orphans in Africa • Tandem jumpers: Sat, July 12 (1pm); Solo and Tandem jumpers: Sun, July 13 (9am) • Proceeds go to support projects in Uganda

**EDMONTON STREET PERFORMERS FESTIVAL!** Sir Winston Churchill Square; www.edmontonstreetfest.com • July 4-13

**FEAST OF FOOLS** Sutton Place Hotel, 10235-101 St (780-425-5162) • A "fun" draiser for the Edmonton International Street Performers Festival; ticket includes

dinner, drinks, a variety show previewing the 2008 StewFest line-up, and a silent auction • Thu, July 3 (7pm) • \$75

**SOURDOUGH RIVER FESTIVAL** Various locations, www.sourdoughriversassociation.com • \$3 pancake breakfast (8-10am); Music, entertainment (10am-noon) at Terwilliger Park • Launch of rafts (noon); best locations along the river bank for spectators to watch the race are Laurier Park, Emily Murphy Park, Kinsmen Sport Centre Park and at Louise McKinnon Rafts complete their voyage at Rafter's Landing • Awards Ceremony at Rafter's Landing (4pm) • Sun, July 13

## KARAOKE

**BLIND PIG** 32 St. Anne Street, St. Albert (780-418-6332) • Tue/Wed/Fri. Karaoke with Shelly

**BILLY BOB'S SPORTS BAR** Continental Inn, Stony Plain Rd (780-484-7751) • Wed (8pm-12am); Thu, Fri, Sat (9:30pm-1:30am); with Right Said Ed

**CASTLEDOWN'S PUB** 16753-100 St • Tue (9pm-1am) with Off-Key Entertainment

**CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB** 37 Millbourne Rd • Tue (9pm) with Sonia/Prosound

**CROWN AND ANCHOR** 15277 Castledowns Rd (780-472-7696) • Thu (10:30pm) • Wed. Name that Tune

**DRUID** 11606 Jasper Ave • Wed nights: with Gary from Mr. Entertainment

**ECCO PUB** 9605-66 Ave • Sat (9pm-1am)

**GAS PUMP** 10166-114 St (780-488-4841) • Tue/Wed (9pm-1:30am); Gord's Best Live Singing Show

**HAWKEYES TOO** 10044-102 St (780-421-9898) • Fri, Sat (8pm-midnight): Hot Karaoke Productions

**HODIGANZ PUB** 10704-124 St (780-452-1168) • Fri Karaoke with Krista, Liquid Entertainment

**INGLEWOOD PUB** 12402-118 Ave (780-451-1390) • Thu, hosted by Gord; Fri/Sat: hosted by Jolly Greg Giant (9:30pm-2am)

**JASPER PLACE HOTEL** 15326 Stony Plain Rd (780-489-1906) • Mon (9pm-1am). Karaoke

**KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH** 19 Ave, 105 St (780-461-0587) • Fri/Sat (10pm-2am): Gord's Best Live Singing Show

**LAMONT HOTEL** • Last Fri every month (10pm-2am) with ProSound Productions

**LIONSHEAD PUB** Coast Terrace Inn, 4440 Gateway Blvd (780-431-5815) • Sun (8pm) With Evolution Entertainment

**MAZADAR** 10725-104 Ave (429-4940) • Fri (5pm-late) with Chris

**MOJO'S** Best Western Hotel, Fort Saskatchewan (780-998-7888) • Fri (9:30pm); with Sonia/Prosound Productions

**MONA USA'S PUB** 9506-118 Ave (780-477-7752) • Thu, Fri, Sat: sound and songs with great hosts

**NEWCASTLE PUB** 6108-90 Ave (780-490-1999) • Thu

**NEW WEST HOTEL** 15025-111 Ave • Sun (3-7pm)

**O'CONNOR'S IRISH PUB** 9013-88 Ave (780-465-4834) • Thu (8pm): Terra with Mr. Entertainment

**ON THE ROCKS** 11740 Jasper Ave (780-482-4767) • Mon (9:30pm); with Wil Clark and Mr. Entertainment Wed (9:30pm) Name That Tune • Thu (9pm): Salsa Rocks with Cuban salsa DJ

**ORLANDO'S 1** 15163-121 St (780-457-1649) • Wed, Thu, Sun (9:30pm-2am); with TLC Entertainment

**EVERETT NIGHT CLUB** 780-988-5457 • Sat (9pm); hosted by Jenny Joy

**ROCK PUB AND GRILL** 570 St. Albert Tr, St. Albert (780-458-5571) • Karaoke Tue (9pm-1am); TLC Entertainment

**ROSARIOS** 11715-108 Ave (780-447-4727) • Longest running Karaoke bar; 7 days a week

**ROSIE'S BAR AND GRILL** • Downtown, 10604-101 St (780-423-3499) • Mon-Sat (9pm); Sun (7pm); with Ruth • Highstreet, 10315-124 St (780-482-1600); daily (9:30pm) • Old Strathcona, 10475-80 Ave (780-439-7211); Thu-Sat (9:30pm-1:30am) • 99 St, 63 Ave; Thu-Sat (9pm-1am); with Off-Key Entertainment

**ST. MICHAEL HOTEL** • 1st Fri each month (9pm-1am); with ProSound Productions

**SHERLOCK HOLMES** 1650 WEM • Karaoke Industry Night Sundays: Terra with Mr. Entertainment; 9pm-2am • Rock Band Mondays: Terra with Mr. Entertainment, play for fun, all skill levels; 8pm start

**SIDELINERS PUB** 11018-127 St (780-453-6006) • Thu/Sat (9pm-2am); with Shelley

**SILVER MARTINI** 10668-156 St • Every 2nd Sat (9pm-1am); with ProSound

**TAPHOUSE** 9020 McKenney Ave, St. Albert (780-458-0860) • Wed (9pm-1am); hosted by Beauty and the Beast

**THORSBY HOTEL** • Sat (9:30pm-1:30am); with ProSound Productions

**TRANSIT HOTEL** 12720 Fort Rd • Thu (7:30-11:30pm); with ProSound Productions

**WILLY'S PUB** 990 Lakeland Village, Sherwood Pk • Every 2nd Sat (9:30pm-1:30am)

**WOODY'S PUB** 11723 Jasper Ave (780-488-6557) • Karaoke Mon 8pm-12am with host Chad • Every Sat (7pm-12am) with host Gary • You Don't Know Jack. Game show every Thu (8pm) with host Patrick (aka Tequila Mockingbird) and side kick Scooter

**X-WRECKS LOUNGE** 9303-50 St • Wed (7:30-11:30pm); with Sonia/Prosound

**YESTERDAYS** 112-205 Carnegie Dr, St. Albert (780-459-0295) • Thu (9:30pm-2am); with Off-Key Entertainment

## Intolerance in words

## 1997 QUEERMONTON

TAMARA GORZALKA  
tam@vueweekly.com

"I feel like a failure for not holding her hand. For Lisa, who was the love of my life, my soulmate, who I miss every day. But I'm finding the strength to speak out so this does not have to happen to any other family. What happened to us was very wrong. We knew sign language, we could have at least signed in her hand while she could have felt it. And we didn't get to do that."

Janice Langbehn was speaking about the immeasurable pain she felt after her partner died in a Florida hospital room that she and the couple's three kids weren't allowed to enter. Lisa Pond suffered a brain aneurysm while the family was on a cruise ship and was taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami. The family was denied visitation even after having legal and medical documents faxed from their home in Olympia, Washington.

Langbehn was denied entry immediately after arriving at the hospital when a social worker approached to tell her she was in an "anti-gay city and state" and had no rights there. She pleaded with staff for hours and was only allowed entry for a few minutes when she and a chaplain gave Pond her last rites. She tried to gain access for her children so they could also say their goodbyes, but all were refused. It took five hours for Pond to pass away while her family stood outside. Langbehn was only finally recognized as Pond's partner when it was time to take Pond off life support.

The couple were together for 17 years and raised 27 foster and adopted children together. A model family who had the misfortune of one mother finding herself gravely ill in the wrong city, Langbehn's story is a heartbreaking reminder of still-prevalent inequality. She maintains a blog, rvavesofchange.com, about the ordeal.


"Before, we constantly had to hide, we were considered abnormal," recalls 95-year-old Rudolf Brazda, who was imprisoned in Buchenwald by the Nazis between 1941 and 1945. "But thank God, today we are free. There is nothing better than democracy."

Brazda is thought to be the last Nazi concentration camp survivor who was put there for being gay. After placing a rose at Berlin's newly unveiled memorial for gay and lesbian victims of the Holocaust, he joined an estimated half-million people celebrating Pride in Germany's capital.

Rev Michael Morran of Denver's First Unitarian Church accompanied Kate Burns and Sheila Schroeder to the Denver county clerk's office as they attempted to acquire marriage licenses last fall. Rev Morran was there to marry them on the spot if they succeeded. Once denied the licenses, Burns and Schroeder staged a peaceful sit-in to protest marriage inequality in Colorado. They were promptly arrested.


"I thoroughly and completely believed in what they were doing," said Morran. "They held hands as long as they could until the officers put their hands in handcuffs and led them away."

The women were found guilty when the case went to court last month, and each was forced to pay \$41 in court costs and sentenced with 28 hours of commu-

nity service. The couple says they will happily complete the sentence. 

"WITH PARTICULAR regard to Iran, current case law ... concludes that the evidence does not show a real risk of discovery of, or adverse action against gay and lesbian people who are discreet about their sexual orientation."

England's Home Secretary Jacqui Smith said that in response to members of parliament after they voiced concern that gay Iranian asylum seekers would be put in danger if forced to return to their home country. Her suggestion is that they stay in the closet, a plan that's clearly not working, since an estimated 4000 gays and lesbians have been killed in Iran over the last three decades.

"I couldn't breathe and they just made me lay there. Nobody checked to see if I was okay. My eyes were burning. My skin was burning," recalls transwoman Duanna Johnson, after footage surfaced of her being beaten by police officers inside a Memphis jailhouse. "I was scared to death. Even the nurse came in and she just ignored me, and I begged her to help me." 

The disturbing 18-minute video is available online and though it doesn't feature sound, it's obvious that Johnson was brutally attacked by two officers. The incident occurred Feb 12 but the video was just recently released by Johnson's attorney


Johnson says the situation occurred when Officer Bridges McRae called her over to get fingerprinted, but referred to her only by homophobic and transphobic slurs. She refused to comply until McRae used her name instead of the derogatory words

"He was trying to get me to come over to where he was, and I responded by telling him that wasn't my name, that my mother didn't name me a 'faggot.' He said 'he-she,' so he got upset and approached me. And that's when it started," said Johnson. McRae put a glove over one hand, then slid his handcuffs over his knuckles and started hitting Johnson, who was still seated, in the face. Another officer, James Swain, came over and held Johnson's shoulders back as McRae continued punching

Eventually Johnson got up and started swinging back at McRae. She was then sprayed with mace. The video clearly shows a nurse entering the room and ignoring Johnson as she rocks back and forth, wincing in pain. Instead, the officer tends to McRae. With her hands cuffed behind her back, Johnson couldn't even wipe the mace from her eyes. She suffered contusions, lacerations, scarring, bruising and permanent nerve damage.

Memphis Police Director Larry Godwin has said the tape made him sick, and he reported the incident to the FBI for investigation.

"The people we arrest are someone's son or daughter. They are someone's loved one. I'm not going to tolerate them being mistreated by an officer," Godwin said.

Swain was still on probation and was promptly terminated after the incident. McRae was put on non-enforcement status pending an investigation and was fired a few days ago. Johnson was initially charged with attacking McRae but the charge was dropped. Johnson now plans on filing a \$1.3-million lawsuit against the City of Memphis. 



# ADSI CLASSIFIEDS

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OR E-MAIL TO: [ads@vueweekly.com](mailto:ads@vueweekly.com)

## DATING

Eight Minute Date- Speed Date Fri. July 3 at The Rock Pub & Grill (St. Albert) Ages: 24-36, 37-47 & 48-55. Registration: 426-1996. Registration: 426-1996.

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4 Hours - AM  
or  
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Mon-Sat

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702-5519

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Want to stop smoking? Nicotine Anonymous  
meetings: 7pm, every Wed, Ebenezer United Church  
Hall, 106 Ave, 163 St. Contact Gwynn 443-3020

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## WORKSHOPS

DRAMAWORKS & ARTSTREK Theatre workshops for  
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[www.theatreinaberta.com](http://www.theatreinaberta.com)

## ARTIST TO ARTIST

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**FREE•FREE•FREE•FREE•FREE**  
**ARTIST/NON PROFIT CLASSIFIEDS**  
Need a volunteer? Forming an acting troupe? Want  
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1996/fax 426-2889/e-m [glenys@vueweekly.com](mailto:glenys@vueweekly.com) or drop  
it off. Deadline is noon the Tue before publication  
Placement will depend upon available space

## ARTIST TO ARTIST

Steeps—Old Glenora: for open mic—Spoken word  
First Thursday every month. Contact Adam Snider to  
sign up [adam.snider@gmail.com](mailto:adam.snider@gmail.com)

**Expanse Movement Arts Festival** presented by  
Azimuth Theatre, Mar. 5-8, 2009 at the Roxy; Call for  
Submissions. Looking for some wicked choreographers,  
crews, visionaries and collectives. For info e-mail:  
[expansefestival@gmail.com](mailto:expansefestival@gmail.com), **Submission Deadline:**  
**July 15, 2008**

Alberta Children & Youth Services—The Art of Peace  
Challenge 2008; [www.familyviolence.gov.ab.ca/www-b-free.ca](http://www.familyviolence.gov.ab.ca/www-b-free.ca); **Deadline is August 1.** For youth 14-20

Middle aged actors/actresses needed for short film  
projects. Contact [eifma@live.ca](mailto:eifma@live.ca) and join the  
Edmonton Independent Filmmakers alliance on meet-  
up.com

The Works Art & Design Festival Seeking Boat or  
Canoe Donation for Upcoming Exhibit. Any shape, size  
or condition. E: [production@theworks.ab.ca](mailto:production@theworks.ab.ca); T: 780-  
426-2122 ext 228

Photographer seeks interesting, strong, photogenic  
faces. Sitter will be repaid with free photographs  
Gerry contact@gerriyaum.com, [www.gerryaum.com](http://www.gerryaum.com)

## MUSICIANS

Seeking a drummer for a band. Band name: The  
Serious inquiries only. 780-757-1972 Ryan, 780-637-  
5222. Email: [ryan@theband.ca](mailto:ryan@theband.ca)

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maybe the odd gig. Dave 456-6600

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Edmonton reggae band seek experienced bassist for  
original material. Infl. Slightly Stoopid, Sublime, the  
Marleys, Sizzla, Israel Vibration, etc.  
[kelly.cullen@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.cullen@gmail.com)

Seeking experienced drummer to begin immediately  
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Electric bass player available for working cover or  
Funk dance band. All styles. Have gear and profes-  
sional. Young and neat in appearance. Rod 232-6373

Bass player with vocals wanted for three-piece band.  
Western Canadian roots-based music.  
[www.marvmachura.com](http://www.marvmachura.com) Marv @ 240-1509

Buskers wanted **Aug. 2** outdoor family event in Stony  
Plain. Must register. [spcountrymarket@hotmail.com](mailto:spcountrymarket@hotmail.com)  
445-9114 Seeking lively, friendly entertainers

## VOLUNTEER

MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) fundraiser to  
relieve world suffering and poverty. Choose a 17km  
(kids ride), 60km or 100km Bike-A-Thon in/around  
Sherwood Park on **July 4**. Register: call Gordon 780  
467-6559, visit [mcc.org/alberta](http://mcc.org/alberta) go to 2008 Relief Sale

**Volunteers wanted for Feats Festival of Dance**  
(June 28-July 13) please contact Feats Festival staff  
at (780) 422-8107 or [feats2008@live.ca](mailto:feats2008@live.ca)

Volunteers needed to "make fun" at the Edmonton  
International Street Performance Festival (July 4-  
13). Apply online at [www.edmontonsueetfest.com](http://www.edmontonsueetfest.com),  
email at [volunteer@edmontonsueetfest.com](mailto:volunteer@edmontonsueetfest.com), or call  
Liz at 425-5162. (volunteers must 14 yrs minimum)

**The Great White North Triathlon, Stony Plain, July 6.**  
Need volunteers for course marshals, scuba divers,  
security, transition workers, and tear-down. Ph the  
Volunteer co-ordinator 478-1388, email  
[lwilliam@telus.net](mailto:lwilliam@telus.net)

**The Edmonton International Baseball  
Foundation** is looking for volunteers to assist in the  
hosting of the IBAF World Junior AAA Baseball  
Championship (**July 25-Aug. 3**). Call the E.I.B.F.  
Tournament Office 498-2225

**Volunteers for Canadian Francophone Games**  
Edmonton 2008 (JFC). **Aug. 14-17**; English speaking  
volunteers are welcome.

Participants and volunteers needed for the **28th  
Annual Terry Fox Run 2008, Sun, Sept. 14, 8:30**  
(registration), 10am (run) at Hawrelak Park.  
Run/walk/roll 2, 5, or 10 km, [www.terryfoxrun.org](http://www.terryfoxrun.org).

Hope Mission call for the summer, need water bottles  
to hand out throughout downtown's inner city. Drop-  
off at 9908-106 Ave; call 422-2018

**Rise Up: Radio Free Edmonton on CJSR FM 68**  
seeking people with a critical ear who will be at  
protests, picket-lines, blockades, any sites of struggle  
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E: [riseupradio@cjsr.com](mailto:riseupradio@cjsr.com); Sam Power, 492-2577 ext. 4  
for recording equipment and more details

**Rise Up: Radio Free Edmonton on CJSR FM 68**  
can use help with hosting, interviews, editing, scoop  
searching, news hounding and beat reporting.  
interested? E: [riseupradio@cjsr.com](mailto:riseupradio@cjsr.com)

Volunteers Needed! to help newcomer Somali chil-  
dren with homework. 2 eves/wk. Northside location.  
Call Judy 424-3545, ext 249

Volunteer website for youth 14-24 years old

[www.youthvolunteer.ca](http://www.youthvolunteer.ca)

**Old Strathcona Youth Society:** Looking for volun-  
teers (21+) interested in working with high-risk youth,  
drop-in setting Naomi 496-5947, e-m: [osyc@telus.net](mailto:osyc@telus.net)

**Be a Big Brother or Big Sister! Be a Mentor!**  
Call Big Brother Big Sister today! 424-1111.  
Be a mentor and a difference maker. Just one hour a week.

**HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS** required for studies with the  
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Reimbursement provided

The Brain Neurobiology Research Program at U of A is  
seeking MAJOR DEPRESSION sufferers who are inter-  
ested in participating in a research study. Please call  
407-3906 if interested

Break the Code! Help and adult to read and write.  
Call Jordan Centre for Family Literacy 421-7323  
[www.breakthecode.ca](http://www.breakthecode.ca)

Tandem Captains—Cycling with the Blind  
Tandem Captains required. Please contact John  
Collier at 433-1270

Senior's Birthday Entertainment  
Senior recreation/activity centre needs volunteer  
entertainers for monthly afternoon parties  
Weekday message Karen 780-468-1985 seesa.ca

## VOLUNTEER

Plant a garden row for Meals on Wheels  
Looking for help with fresh produce during the sum-

## PRIVATE NONCOMMERCIAL NOTICE

**This is to give good notice:**  
In all parties, that the following private notice and or men

- Helen Ward
- Richard Marceau
- Allan Garber
- Allan Garber
- Lorna Della

Have entered into a private ecclesiastical  
agreement of facts affecting ESTOPPEL AND  
has been accepted by Dr. Cassandra Paula van  
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The full text of this agreement may be viewed at <http://www.ecumenicalredemption.org>

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# The formula for post-kid S/M: a little + a little + a little = plenty

## ADVICE ALT.SEX.COLUMN

DEAR ANDREA:

When we first married, my husband was into S/M. I was very inexperienced and he... wasn't, and things were interesting for a while until he repeatedly breached our full-disclosure agreement and saw other people behind my back, but came clean about it later. There was also an issue with anal sex (he's hurt me too many times). We've been completely out of these for several years and are enjoying a much closer connection. However, three kids later sex is very boring, planned and short.

I'd love to have fun with him again but he's so sex-crazy I'm afraid of re-opening the door. He still uses a lot of nasty porn and websites where he exchanges emails

with subs. I don't like this, but I understand that he's got to have an outlet. He's a pretty all-or-nothing kind of guy. Also, I think that he isn't sure how to approach me anymore after having three children. Who feels sexy with baby puke on their sleeve and no shower? Is there any hope for us? Also, he refuses to go into therapy or ask for help as he doesn't want to be judged.

LOVE, WANT SOMETHING

DEAR WANT:

You may be surprised to hear this but for a couple who not only have such disparate experience levels and requirements but also three small children, you seem to be doing pretty well. Any number of issues casually glanced upon in your letter could easily have doomed you, and yet you persevere and even feel closer than when you were doing all that kinky stuff? You're OK.

The S/M obscures things a bit, but there are core issues here no different from those we discuss in the classes (rather

imprecisely entitled "Is There Sex After Motherhood?") that I've been teaching at a local nice-moms-and-their-babies education centre. The baby puke, for instance. One of the most disheartening things I heard while awaiting my own babies was, "Oh, I didn't change my clothes for six months. I just wore this ratty old T-shirt full of holes and spit-up." (This from a lovely friend who was only telling me the truth as she'd lived it.) "Forget it, then," I thought. "If it's going to be like that, I'm not doing it." And it wasn't like that, of course, not for me, and it shouldn't be for you. One needs to do whatever it takes not to sink into that barely human state where you figure, "What the hell, why bother showering when you're just going to get dirty again?" Get enough T-shirts so there's always a clean one! Drag everybody into the shower with you, get up 5 am, pay a neighbour to watch the kids for half an hour, whatever works. Get enough time to look and feel decent. We're not talking about a hot-stone

massage, yummy mummy makeover here. Groomed enough to bear the sight and smell of oneself shouldn't be too high a bar.

I would like to launch here into some ways that you two could get back to breaking out the whips and chains and stuff but I worry. Does he really need to have it all? Is he really insisting on nothing if he can't? I'm hoping a guy starved of all but virtual kink for a couple years may be more amenable than he used to be to a scaled-down version of hellbent for leather: "leaning toward naugahyde," or something.

I do believe he doesn't know how to approach you anymore; so here's the obvious suggestion: you approach him, but only after ensuring that you won't again end up with him holding the power, reins, flogger, modern and lube, which he anyway didn't use enough of. Take this opportunity to figure which games you liked, which might do and which are untenable. I would also suggest that in the scarcity conditions that follow the introduction of many small children

into the marital equation, the whole "other partners" thing is right out. In order to get beyond the dreary status quo (although I do have to put a word in for the parents-of-small-children quickie while I'm here) you'll need to plan and to throw some childcare money at the problem (what my husband and I refer to, just to annoy people, as "paying young women for sex.") This is all stressful and expensive enough already. No way will you want to pay for babysitters for his nights out without you, nor should you get saddled with three kids while he gallivants. Save it for kinky-sex dates.

All of this depends on him not being so crazy, sex or otherwise, that "some but not all" is not an option, obviously. I'm hoping that after a few years of deprivation, and with the added motivation of keeping a beloved family intact, he can embrace moderation. Tell him it's like the French model of eating, you know? A little + a little + a little = plenty.

LOVE, ANDREA

mer. Drop off produce 11111-103 Ave, 8am-3pm weekdays; www.mealsonwheelsedmonton.org

Volunteers Needed to work with new immigrants in a variety of tasks and with some great fun events and outings! Many exciting shifts available! Call Judy 424-3545, ext 248

Volunteers Needed! to assist new immigrants on first time shopping trip for essentials. 2-3 hrs. occas. weekdays. Call Judy 424-3545, ext 249

Volunteers Needed! to help adult immigrants learn English. Shifts day/ eve., days/wknds, 3-4hrs/wk. No exp. req., various locations. Judy 424-3545, ext 249

Volunteers Needed to help new immigrants to

Canada learn about Canadian customs and culture. Tue and Thu June-Aug. Ph Judy 424-3545, ext 249

**The Support Network:** Volunteer today to be a Distress Line Listener. Apply on line at: www.thesupportnetwork.com or call 732-6648

Meals on Wheels, volunteer kitchen help and drivers needed, weekdays 10am-1pm. Call 429-2020.

Volunteer for ElderCare. Help with daily activities for seniors. Call 434-4747 Ext. 4

Canadian Mental Health Association-Edmonton Region Board Recruitment. For info visit www.cmha-edmonton.ab.ca, click on Volunteer. Contact Abigail Parrish-Craig at grammababy@shaw.ca

Join in the hottest new trend of personal history. Unique volunteer opportunity to develop your artistic and writing skills by helping to put together a collection of life history stories of Edmonton elders. Interviews have been conducted, we now need someone to assist with transcription, storywriting, and/or layout and design. 434-4747 ext 4 for info

Volunteer for the AGA and meet other art enthusiasts, get a free membership after 30 hrs of volunteer work, get invitations to events and movies. For info contact Priscilla Wagar at 422-6223 or pwagar@art-galleryalberta.com

**S.C.A.R.S.**  
Second Chance Animal Rescue Society  
There is a suitable home for all homeless animals, young or old!  
scarscare.org

Help to broadcast news nationally for the blind and print-restricted! Email edmonton@voiceprintcanada.com, or call 451-8331

Special needs "Learn to Bike" courses at Gold Bar Park are looking for volunteer experienced cyclists to help with this course. Thu evenings **Sept. 4-Oct. 16**. John at jbcollier@shaw.ca

Love Bingo? Volunteer for Elder Care. Bingo volunteers are needed to help raise funds for program meals and outings. Ph 434-4747, ext. 4

Exposure: Edmonton's Queer Arts and Culture Festival seeks steering committee volunteers. Visit www.exposurefestival.ca

Volunteer for a more just society for immigrants and refugees. www.multiculturalcoalition.ca or call Janina 423-1973

P.A.L.S. Project Adult Literacy Society are looking for volunteer tutors to work with adult students in the Math Literacy Program. For info Ph 424-5514

**E.C.A.W.A.R. (EDMONTON COALITION AGAINST WAR AND RACISM)** Volunteers welcome! www.wage-peace.com for info/contacts, Ph 988-2713

**A call for volunteers - Action for Healthy Communities:** Questions about AHC philosophy & programs? 944-4687 Visit: www.a4hc.ca

Volunteer Overseas with Canadian Crossroads International: human rights, community economic development, and HIV/AIDS education, prevention, care. www.cciorg.ca

**YEAR ROUND ON-LINE AUCTION for Alberta Easter Seals.** Donate items, bid, have a great time. Carmen 429-0137 x233. http://auction.edmonton24hourrelay.com

**CANADIAN LIVER FOUNDATION** is looking for enthusiastic volunteers for presentations and special events. Call Carmen at 444-1547

P.A.L.S. Project Adult Literacy Society are looking for volunteer tutors to work with adult students in the ESL - English as a Second Language program. Training and materials provided. Contact 424-5514

Do you know what a Volunteer Driver is? It's a community member who can spare 3-4 hours once a month to drive a senior. Call Bev 732-1221

Do you love art and people? Then the Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts can use you! Come show off your talents. www.ninahaggertyart.ca; email: info@ninahaggertyart.ca or call 474-7611

**CNIB is looking for volunteers with vision,** adults (50+) to help seniors with vision loss. For more info call Catherine 453-8304

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### SERVICES

**SACE—Public Education Program:** Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (www.sace.ab.ca) provides crisis intervention, information, counseling, public education services. For a customized presentation T: 423-4102/F: 421-8734/E: info@sace.ab.ca; www.sace.ab.ca/24 Hour Crisis Line: 423-4121

**Canadian Mental Health Association, www.cmha-edmonton.ab.ca** Education Program is pleased to offer workshops to give you the skills to intervene with people who may be at risk for suicide. Follow the links to ASIST or call 414-6300

Have you been affected by another person's sexual behaviour? S-Anon is a 12-Step fellowship for family members and friends of sex addicts. Ph 988-4411 for meeting locations and info, or visit www.sanon.org

**IS DRINKING A PROBLEM? A.A. CAN HELP! 424-1900**

### SEX TRADE WORKERS

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## VUEWEEKLY CONTEST RULES:

Unless otherwise specified, the following will apply:

- the winner must be 18 or older.
- prize must be accepted as awarded.
- no one may enter any contest more than once.
- you may only win once every 60 days.
- Vue Weekly reserves the right to exclude anyone from our contests.
- no staff, sponsors or members of their immediate families may enter.
- the personal information of those who enter will not be sold but may be provided to contest sponsors.
- the chances of winning depend on the number of entries received.
- by entering, entrants consent to the use of their names by Vue Weekly for publicity.
- Vue Weekly is not responsible for prizes unclaimed after 15 days.
- by entering with an email address one authorizes oneself to be added to FIRSTREAD!

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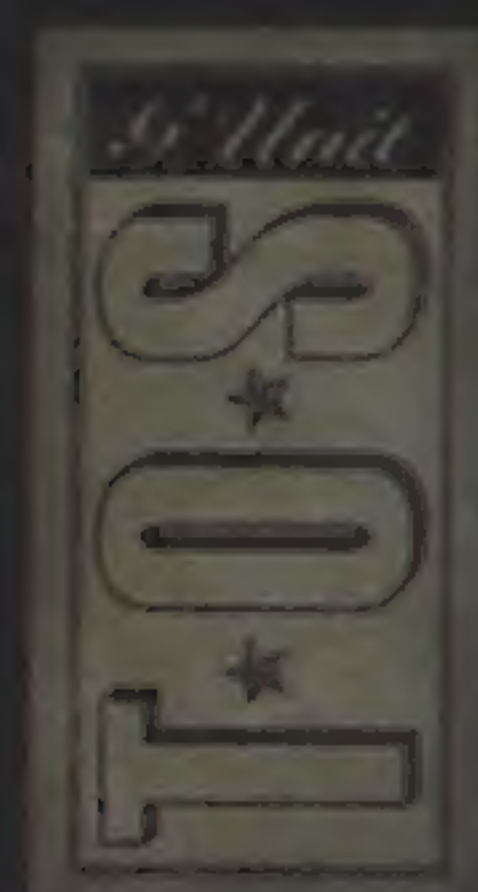
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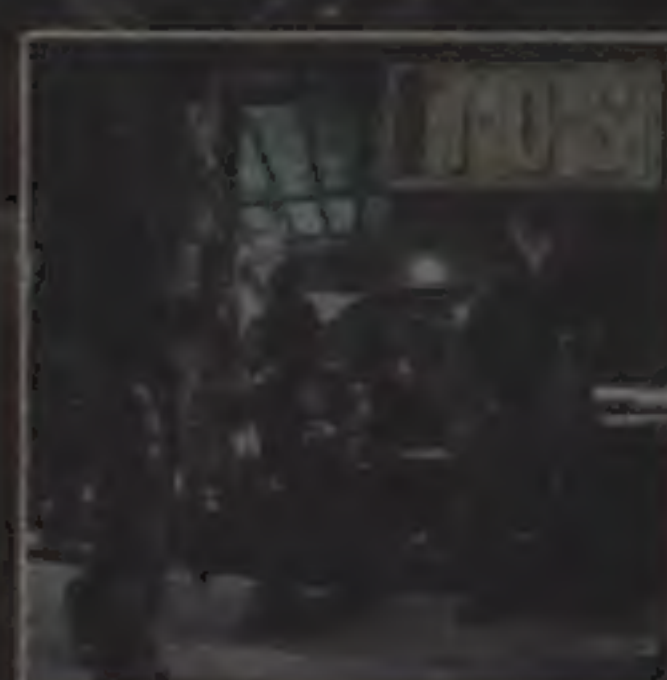


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